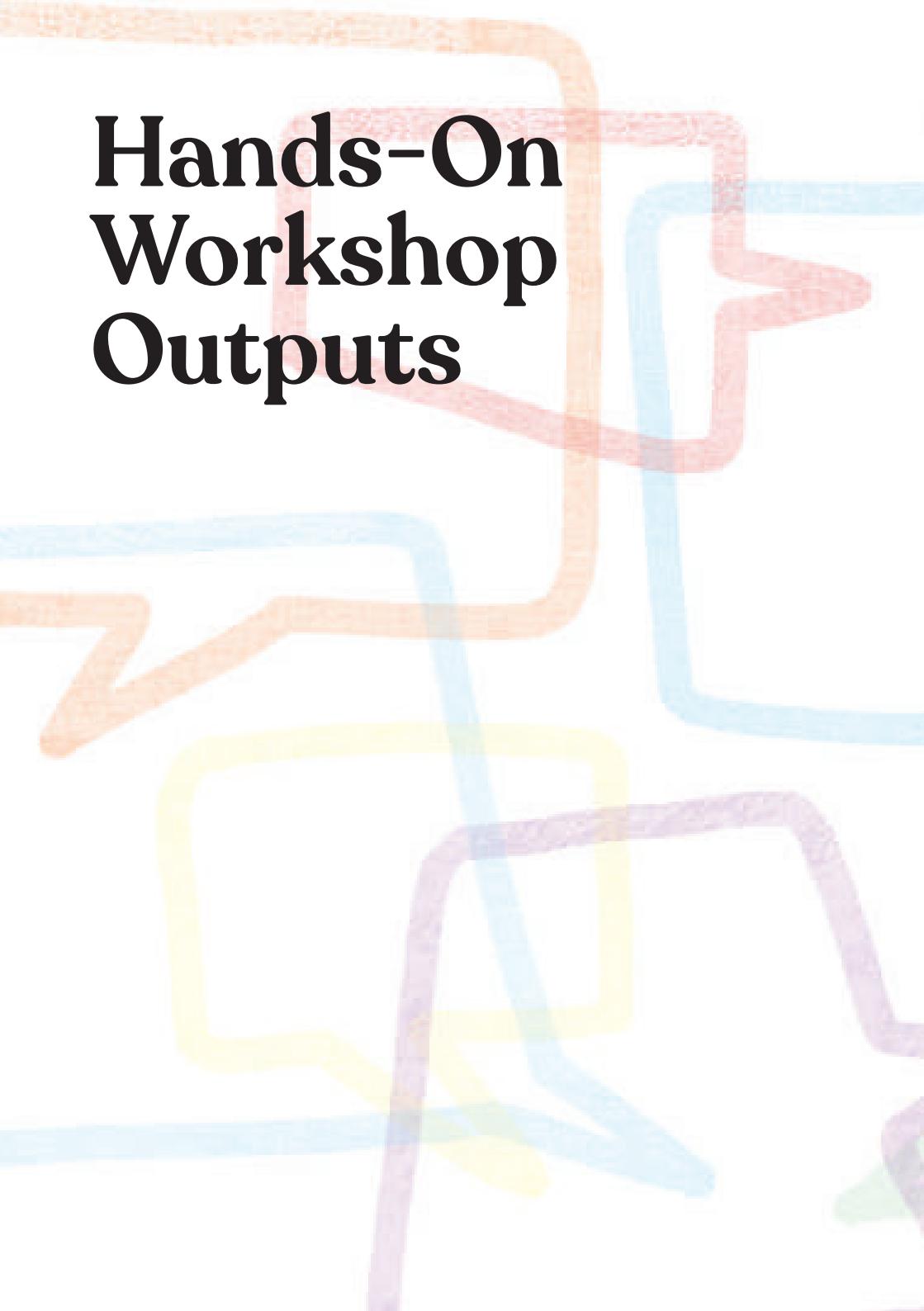


# Hands-On Workshop Outputs



# Vision

G

# MEMORABLE PLATE.



→ PLACE IS ABOUT  
MEMORY.

Don't be all things to  
all people - and end  
up with nothing.

What is it that  
would draw Glaswegians  
to it?

- access (bus route)
- funchion

It's the place for  
people in the city  
to go.

Whatever we do,  
it must be  
future-proofed !

There is too much  
short-termism  
(in local authority  
bureaucracy).

---

---

Broken mirror effect.

"It's fine as it is -  
money would be  
better spent elsewhere"

---

"Glaswegians will be angry  
if the square becomes  
something they don't want"

Should George Sq.  
reflect the culture  
we want or the  
culture we currently  
have (chains etc).

George Square should  
display Glaswegians'  
as qualities - distinctive!

---

- Gregariousness
- Local culture/fests
- Spontaneity
- Friendliness

"George Square should  
be Glasgow!"

Let's... have some  
gallowsners ! gallus. !

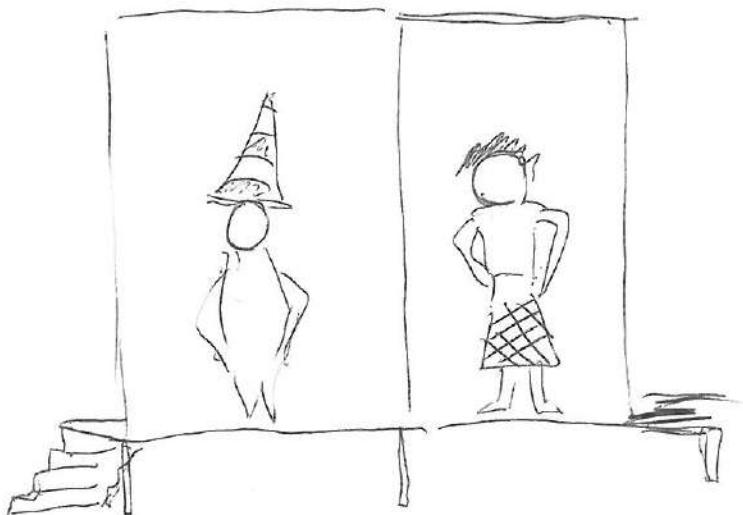
- where kids can run about
- something Glaswegian
- playfulness

GEORGE SQUARE A  
PLACE TO BREAK FROM  
THE CITY.



George Square should  
be memorable,  
the best it can be

It should be a  
people friendly space.



INTERACTIVE SPACE  
WITH A PINCH OF HUMOUR

It could make it  
more people friendly

(reflecting how

Glaswegians see  
(themselves).

Sullivan should reflect the 'people friendly'  
aspect of Glasgow's People

BRING PEOPLE TOGETHER.

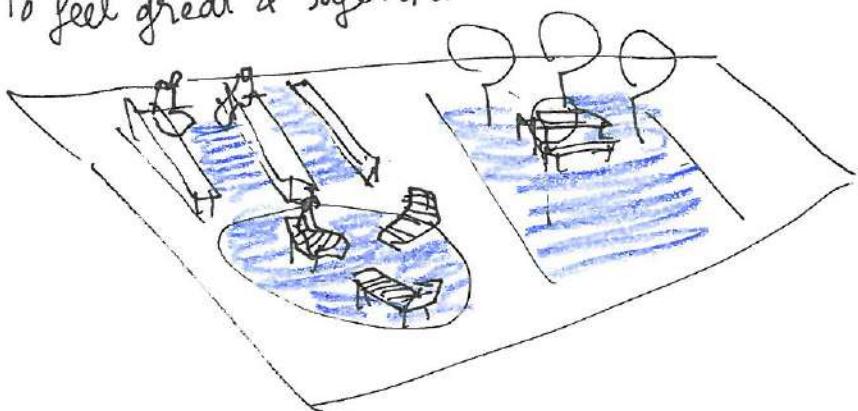


is disconnected from  
the quality of the city.

rest of the city currently.

GEORGE SQUARE  
THE LIVING ROOM  
of the city.

Arrange it to make people use it.  
To feel great & Safe there.



George Square should  
be the living room  
of the city, and we  
need to rearrange the  
furniture properly.

Cl. Green is the garden  
of the city.

→ Glasgow Green a great success.

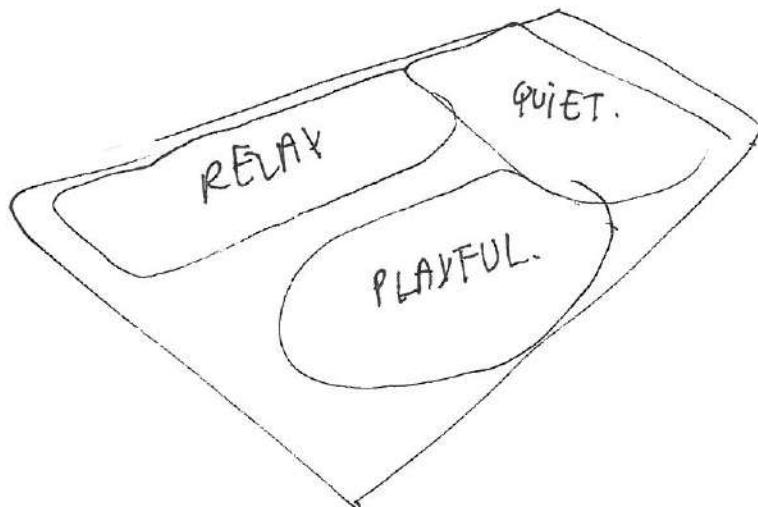
↳ was reactivated in the city  
THE GARDEN of the city

↳ George Square THE LIVING  
ROOM of the city.

DIFFERENT MOODS

in the SAVARE

- FLOW -



Merchant  
House

bus + taxi corridor only

FREE SPACE

(events, marches etc.)

Shuttle bus  
stop - no parking zone

buses + lorries



lorrying + parking



Taxis, lorries - no stopping  
or waiting zones

possible buses, taxis + cycles only

no  
buses  
taxis  
lorries

City Centre

X

City Centre

City  
Centre

ENHANCE

GLASGOW THROUGH  
THE SQUARE

- SHOULD BE  
A SHOWPIECE

Should be more inspirational  
for everyday folks in the  
square



# WOW! factor!

a place  
to  
inspire

- big fountain/water feature
- lighting
- contemporary artwork
- 4<sup>th</sup> Plinth
- reconceptualize <sup>the</sup> ~~one~~ of statue of Queen Victoria - sink it into ground, put cheeky kid after head

Can George Square  
cater for an art  
and design scene.

within Glasgow?

Is there a way of  
making it visible

Design should be  
simple -

- not exploited (for people)
- grass
- trees.
- clean
- flowers (well tended)

It needs color.

(so it isn't just  
grey).

Reconnecting it in to  
be city's fabric.

It would give more of a  
flow of people

Reduce the noise aspect

It gives more scope to  
add new things to  
the public space.

I don't go to George Square  
often anymore to sit in  
as I just don't like the  
way it is today.

Passing  
or walking  
through.

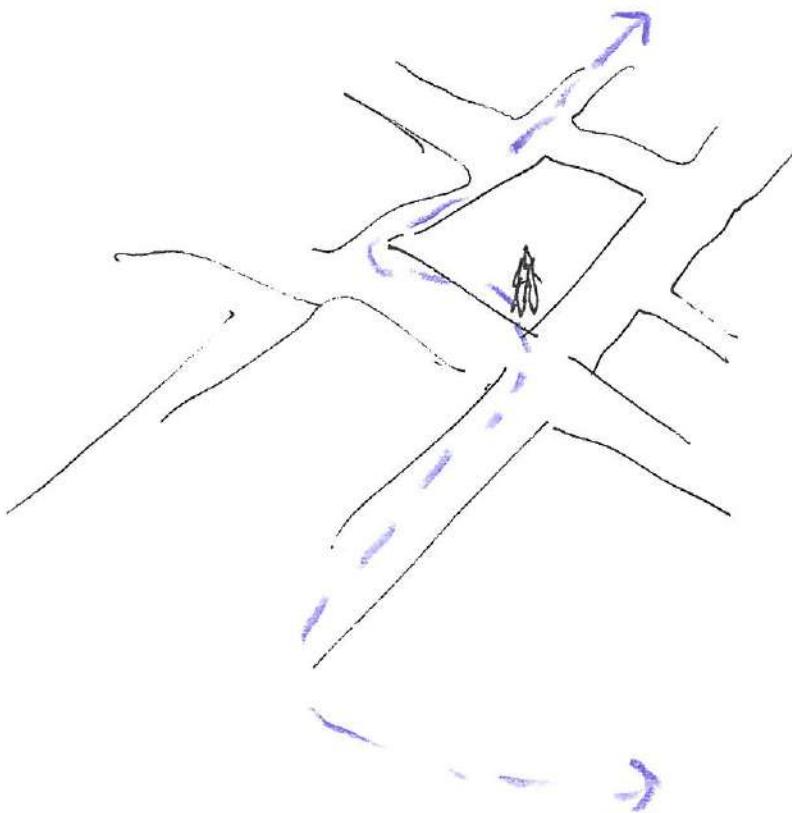
"Don't always have to use  
the square for something -  
it can just be!"

- if it's a good enough  
square, people will  
naturally congregate  
there, and things  
good things will happen

Need to create the feeling  
of "wow" "this is amazing"!

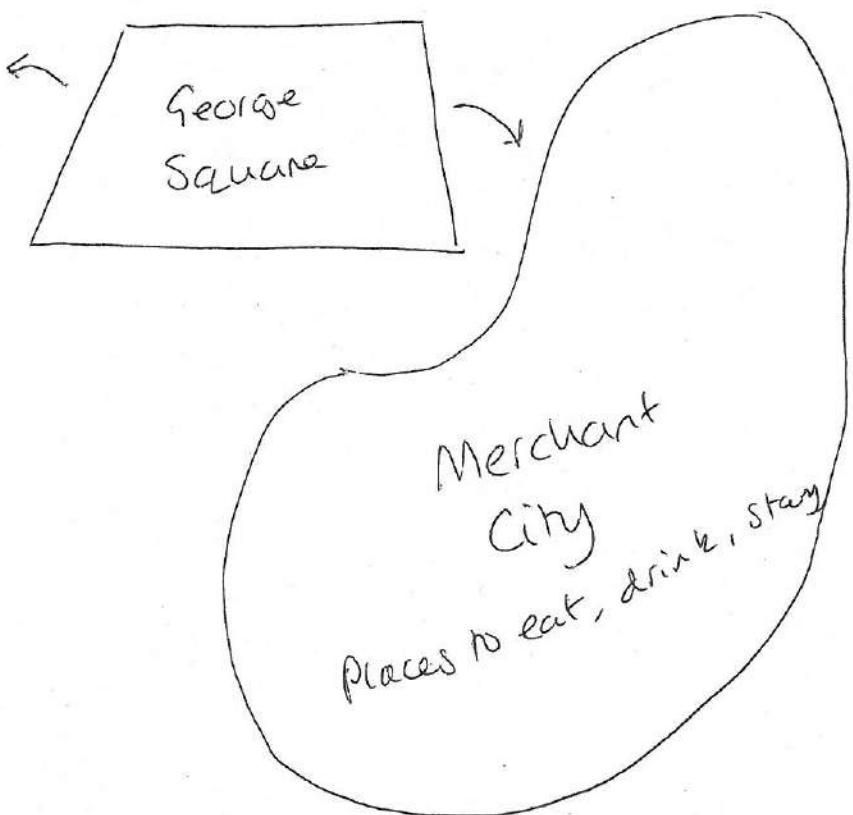
- needs combination of physical design/activity
- not just about the utility of the square

PLACE TO GO THROUGH  
NEED CONNEXIONS  
WITH OTHER PLACE.



Buchanan Street, Shopping

How do we make the  
connections between these  
two to enhance the  
experience.



How To Connect  
to MERCHANT CITY  
- STARTING OFF Point

- How do we encourage the connection to Merchant City?
- George Square is good for a short cut to reach other areas of the city centre.
- Connections to other parts of the City Centre.
- Cycle lane should be incorporated into the design of George Square

How would  
pedestrianisation affect  
how people can access  
the city.

This needs to be  
addressed in design.

Need to maintain public  
access routes across  
the square.

- consider main entry points:  
Queen St, etc

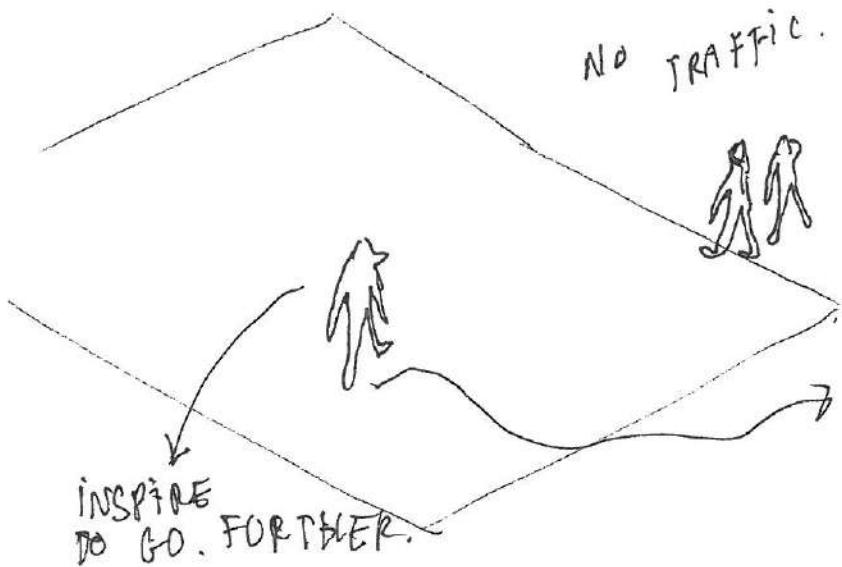
Keep out commercial  
activities — but ok to  
have things on the  
Square you pay for, if  
you ~~walk~~ can walk  
through for free.

---

Don't pay to get in !

---

PLACE THAT SET YOU  
TO WALK MORE.



→ It doesn't inspire me to walk more.  
When I see the traffic.

An open space  
to relax, meet  
and socialise.

Space for a wee  
breather when you're  
working in the city

- Should always be this,  
on any given day - informal  
space to meet
  - ie. events  
shouldn't take  
over the whole  
square

- Visibility / openness is important  
for meeting people

A space that is  
free / accessible all  
the time.

- Guiding principles, and  
maintain access. i.e. no  
fences

Yes

'There's always something  
going on'

- Somewhere where  
we can do nothing

have a café  
in the square

Protective  
One  
Open

Space

At the moment:  
the openness is  
overwhelming - not a  
place to choose to sit,  
even though people  
want to

Create more

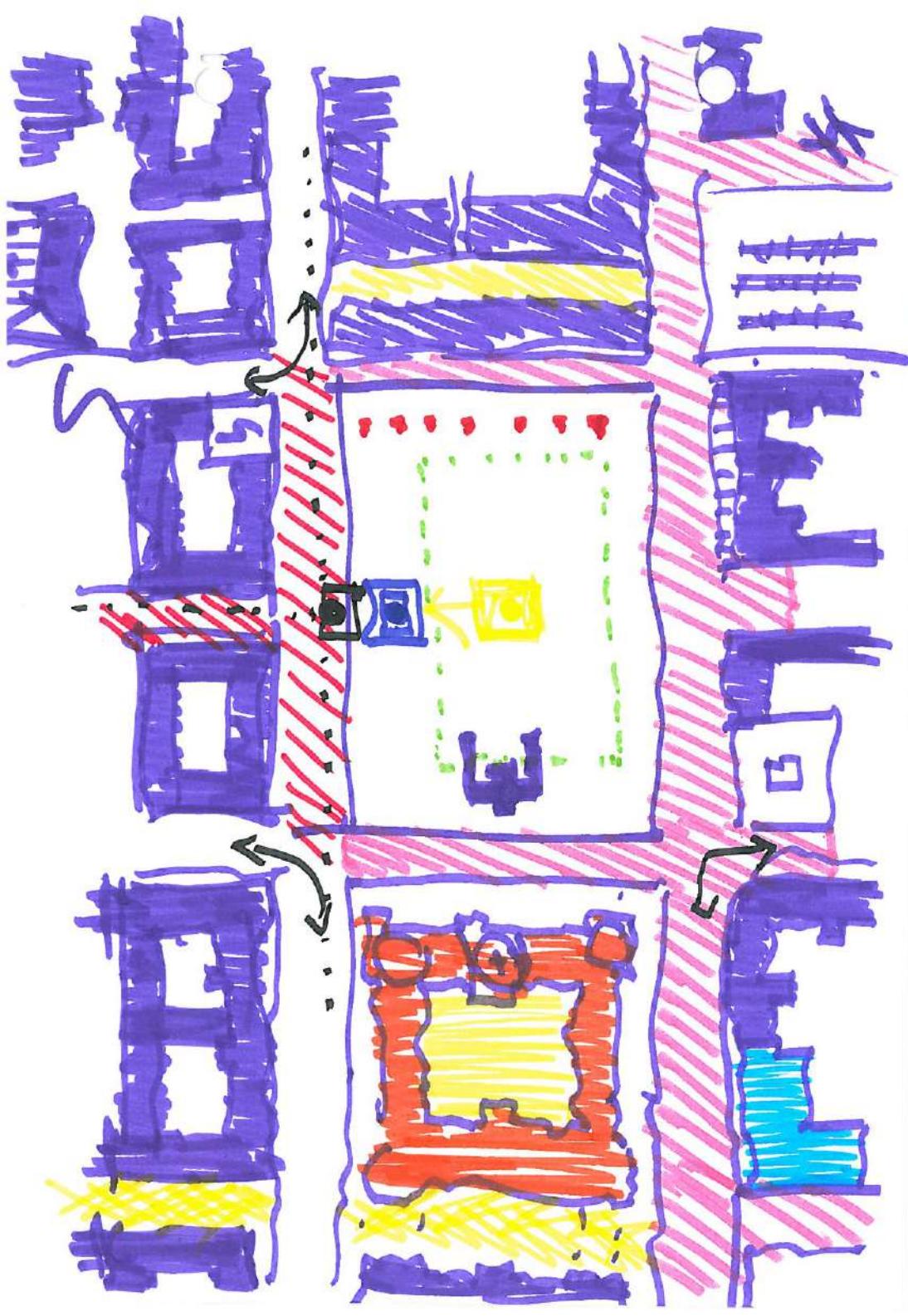
public space

- remove private cars
- remove parking
- bus
  - ^ access on N. side only  
(like Marshall Sq bus only, Boston)
- ... to enable more  
public space and other  
good things

Unless you were going  
to sit down, you rarely  
see someone with a  
coffee there.

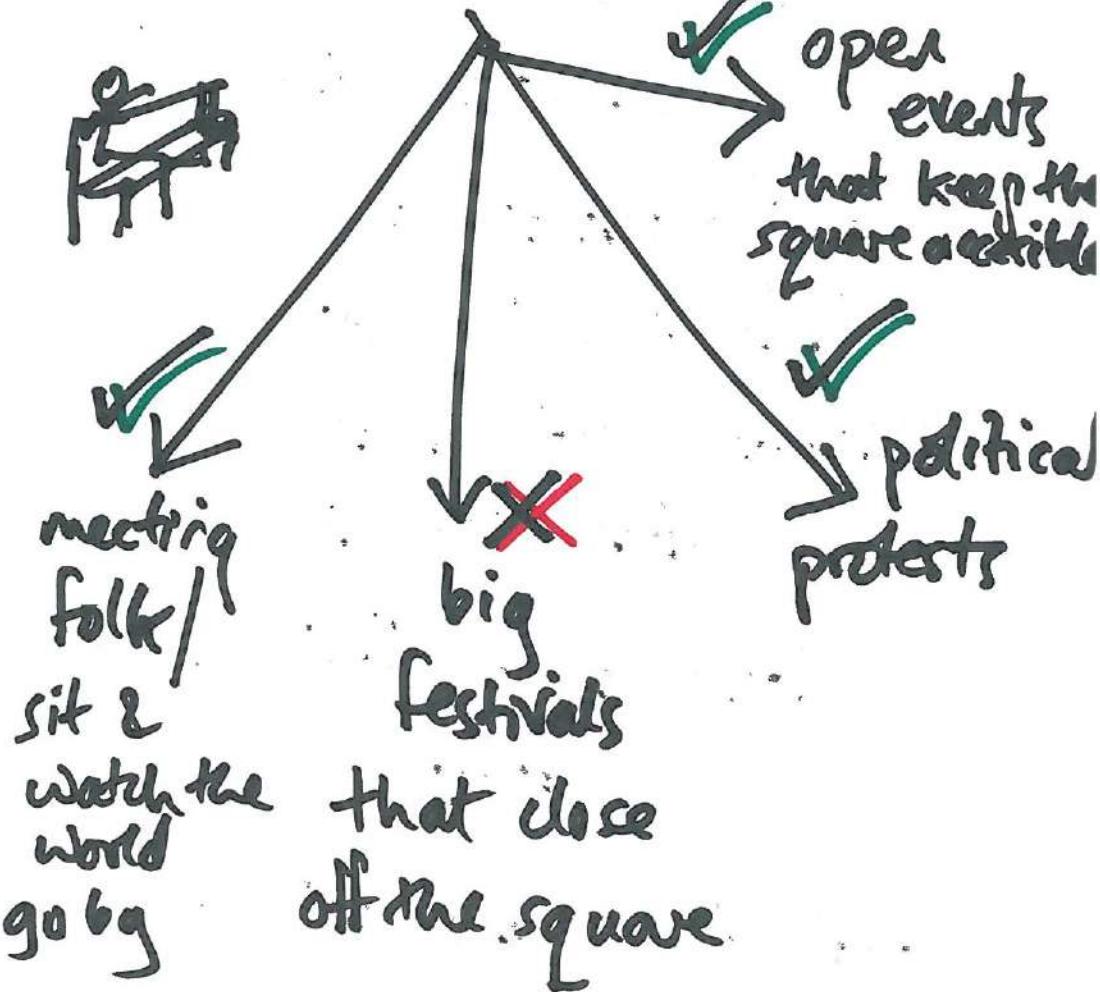
DISCONNECT BETWEEN  
EACH REGION -  
SQUARE COULD  
BRING PEOPLE  
TOGETHER

BRINGING PEOPLE  
TO THE SQUARE IS  
DIFFICULT - ~~PEOPLE~~  
EVENTS ARE  
ORGANISED FOR  
ELSEWHERE

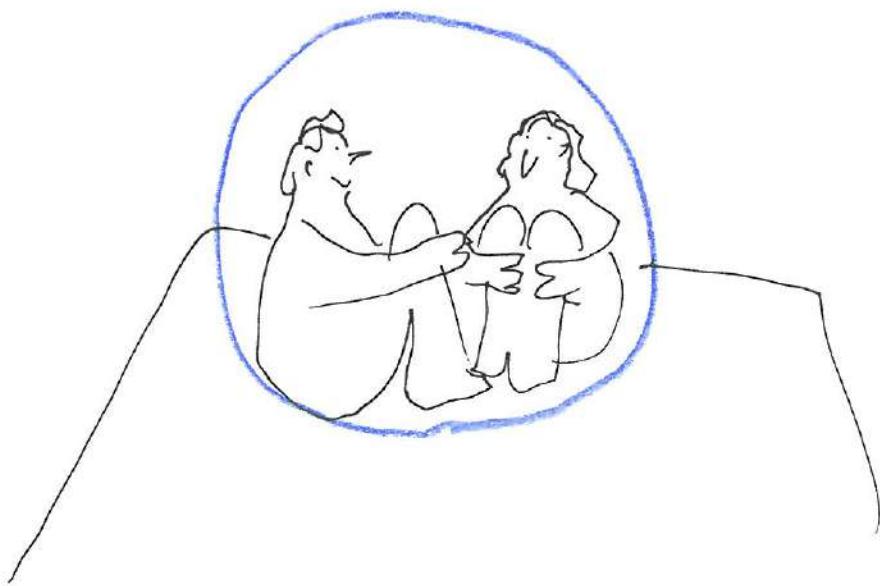


# Space to sit / congregate

- sheltered (trees)



You want to feel protect.  
No traffic, nice atmosphere.



A Place that  
Creates a Safe Space

Where People can meet  
up + have easy access.

The current ~~safe~~

traffic levels can  
make it feel unsafe

~~AS~~

While George Square  
includes thoroughfares,

The central space can  
be the space where people  
can stop, sit down and  
~~have~~ ~~to~~ be a place to  
do things

For this to be possible,  
it does need shelter  
so that it is part of  
life whatever the weather.

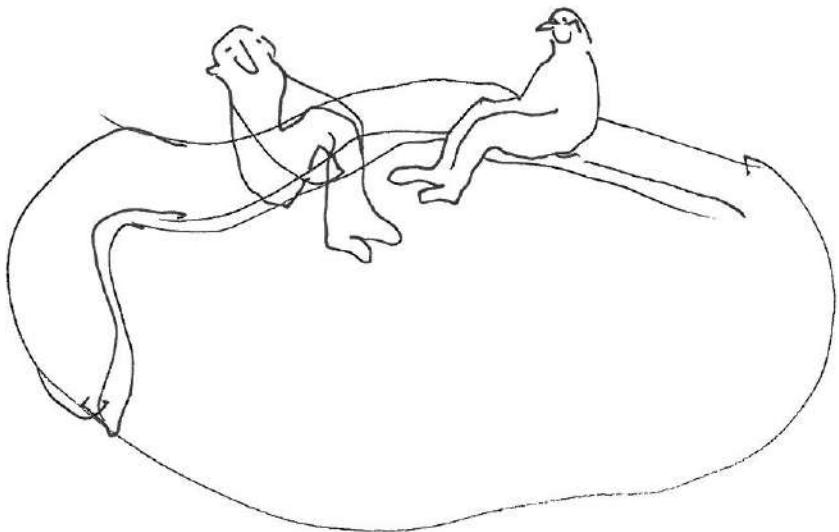
Some where that  
feels comfortable.

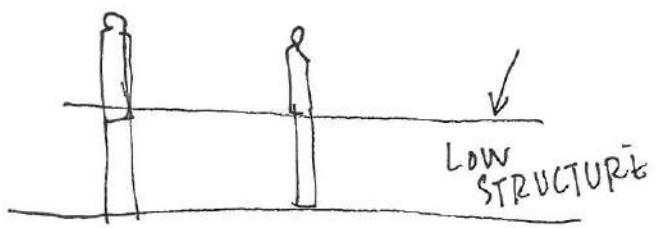
Glasgow is doing more  
with public space, with  
cafes and even down  
the river.

A place to sit

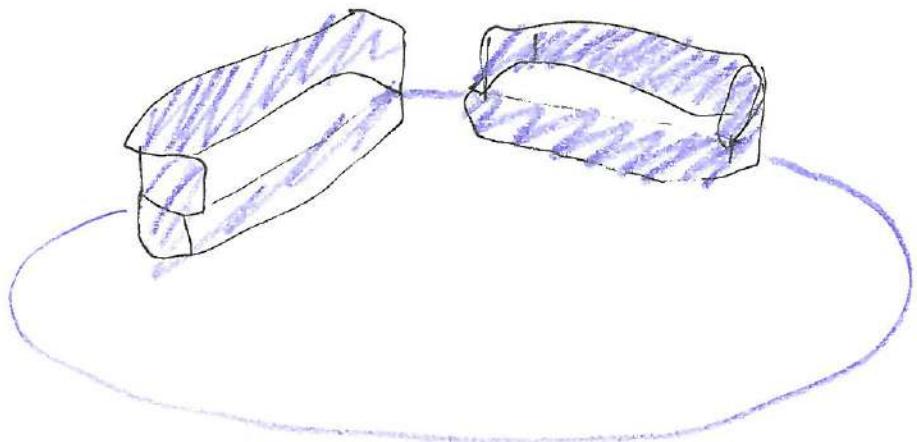
seating is really important

INFORMAL  
SITTIN GS.





COLOURFUL  
BENCHES  
SQUARE.



→ Balance between natural and colour.  
↳ elements.

Barceloná's bed  
seating, have character,  
design.

Arrange seating to be  
more comfortable/protected.

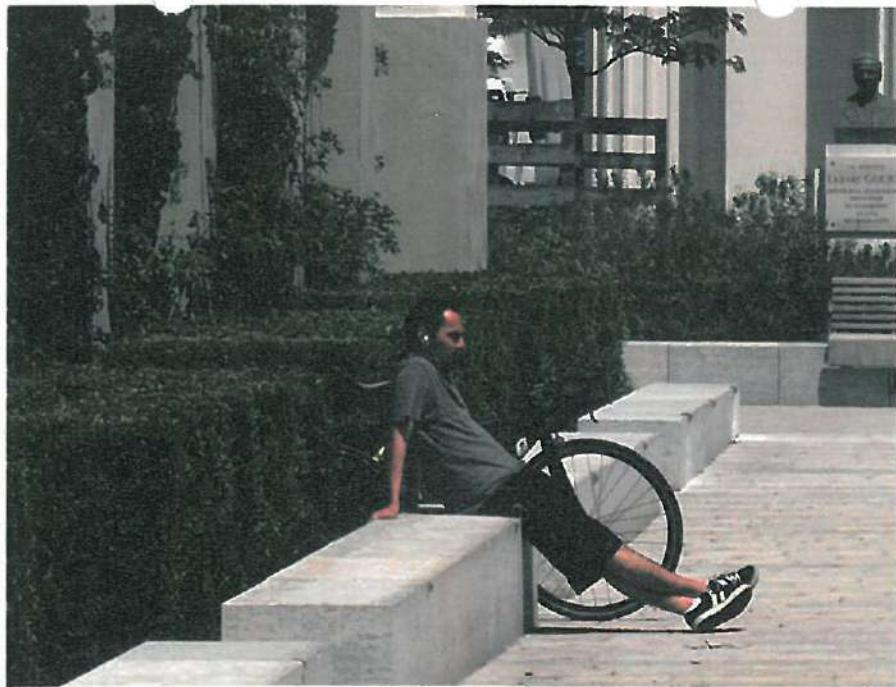
Outdoor cafes.

Shelter (eg. canopies,  
awnings, heat).

Somewhere to sit/stand  
and have a piece



Provide a space / design  
that naturally gives  
people spaces to sit.



Plain, faceless, or lacking  
personality.

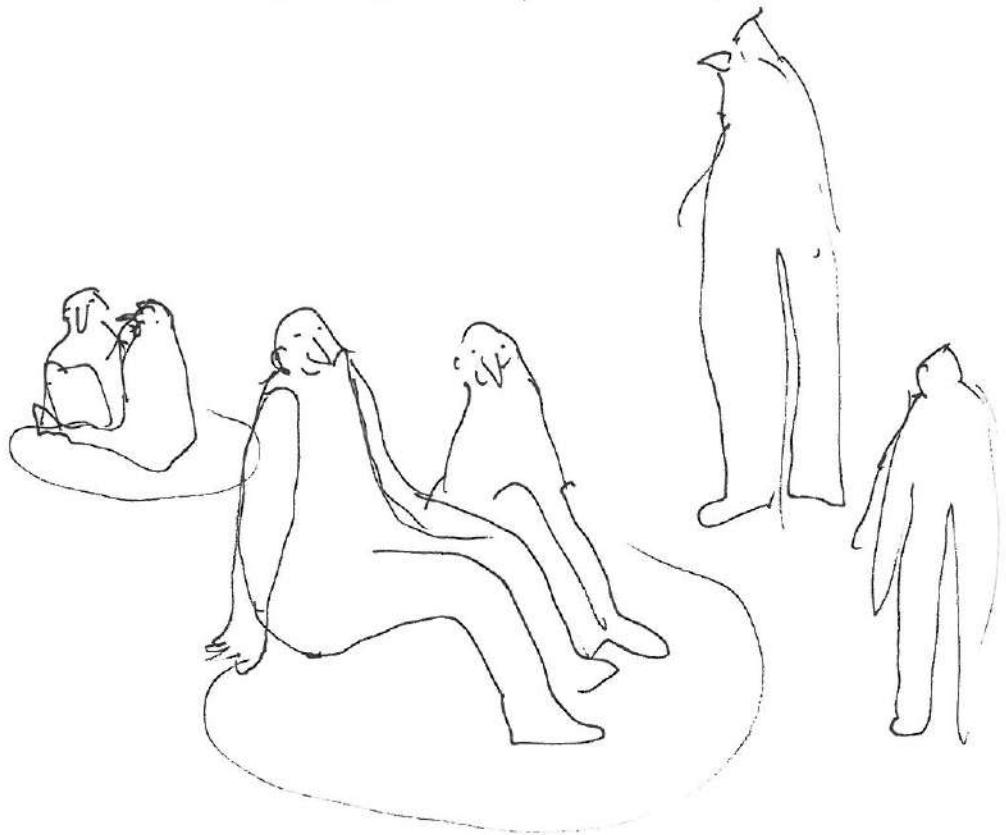


Don't spend a lot  
of money on it  
but use imagination

- more flower beds
- cafe
- fewer gatherings
- no funfairs!

Where people can sit  
on their lunch break  
and eat sandwiches/  
relax

PLACE TO MEET  
& CHILL FOR 30 mins.



→ Round out for the moment.



→ It's not a great place to hang out.

→ I go and stop only if I have to.

→ Don't remember any trees on George Square.

Intergenerational / kids -

older folk - kids

playing in the evening

- playfulness should be  
part of the 'feel'

Create a bit of  
relief - hillocks to  
lie on in the sun

- TRAFFIC NOT RELAX



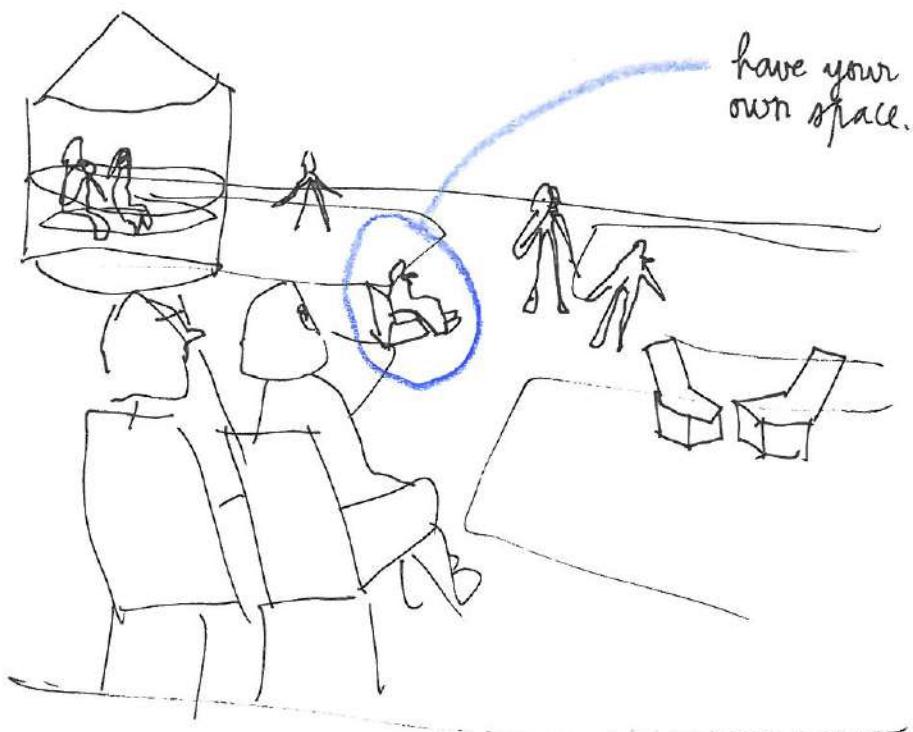
- SCOTLAND GREY.

Function of a square is  
to socialise & relax

... accommodate demos/gatherings  
too

A PLACE TO  
STAY.

To WATCH PEOPLE



A place to watch  
people & the world  
go by - without  
spending a lot of  
money.

Needs something  
free to keep you /  
make you elect  
to stop — make it ~~an~~  
a destination :

- cafes

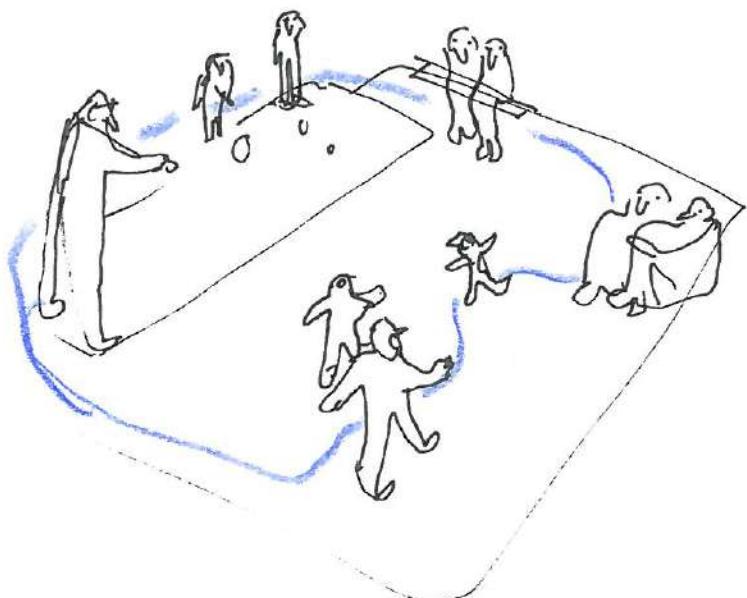
- seating (not just benches)

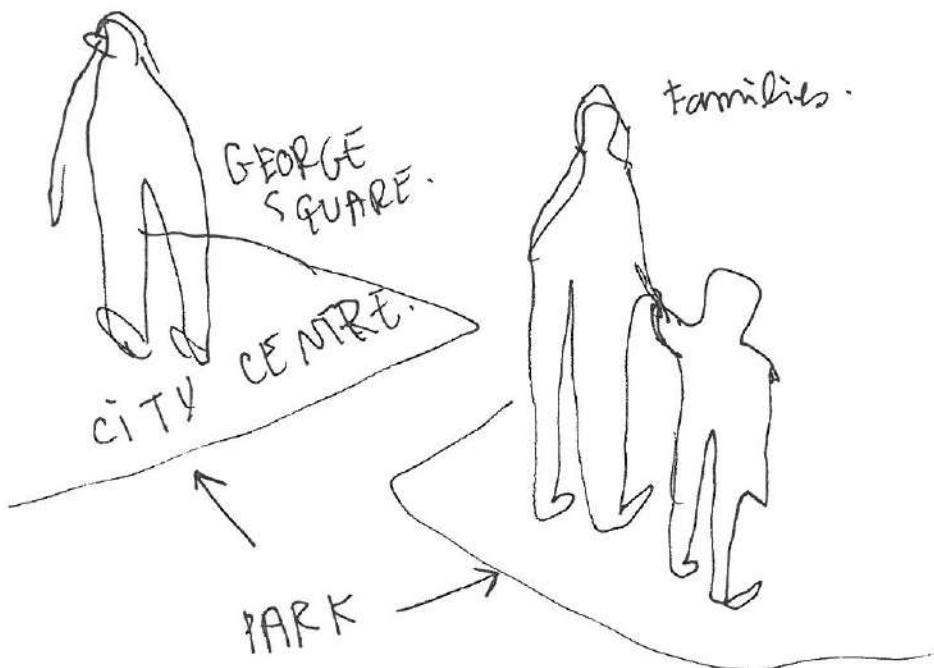
# How to make it a destination ?

---

- Seating (not just benches)
- Cafes

PLACE FOR FAMILIES  
& INTER-GENERATION~~NESS~~





IS ONE SPARE +  
PLAY SPARE

IN CANADA

- Some ~~free~~ space for "free"  
unstructured play would  
be good

↓  
or kids/adults

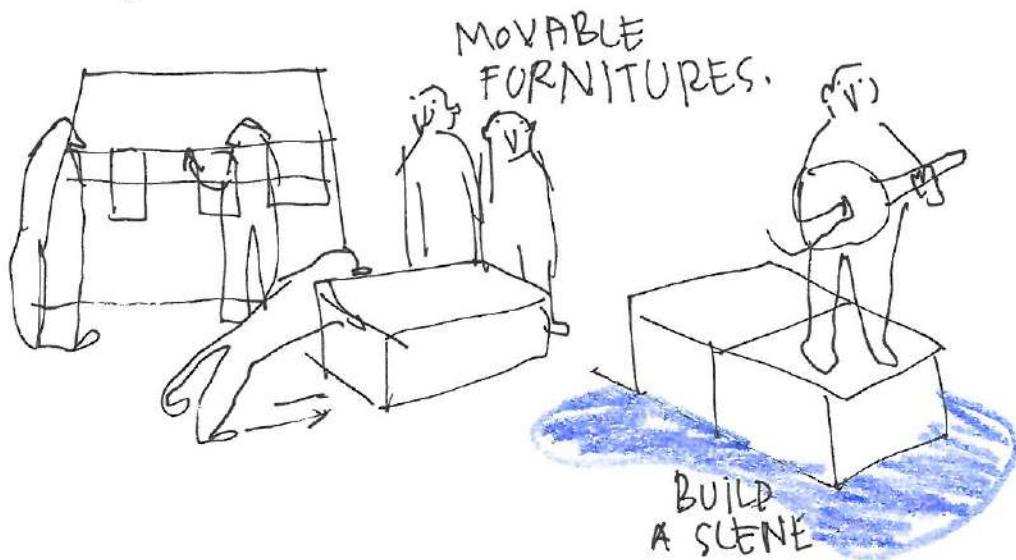
○ Playpark for kids /  
adults ○  
- Doesn't feel that  
important for George Sq

24

I'm not sure this is the sort of  
place for a play park.

COMMUNITY USE  
GATHER, THEY  
CAN APPROPRIATE  
THE SQUARE.

EXHIBITION.



# COMMUNITY SPIRIT USE



NOT  
PRIVATE  
EVENTS.

POP UP  
CRAFT  
ACTIVITIES



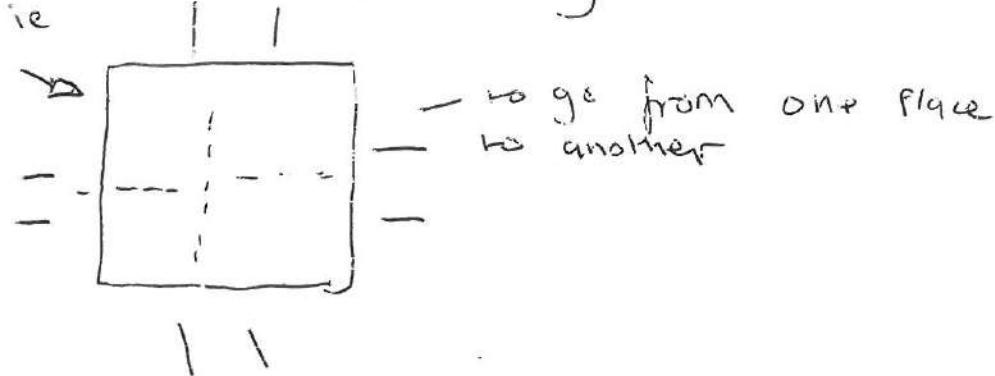
④ ACTIVITIES.

A PLACE FOR  
EXCHANGE  
DISCUSSIONS.



If I know  
it's a place  
where there are  
people giving  
their opinions.  
I won't go.

• Currently George Square is the heart of the city were some people talk but I feel many use to "cut corners ie



|| | .

- loss of conversation

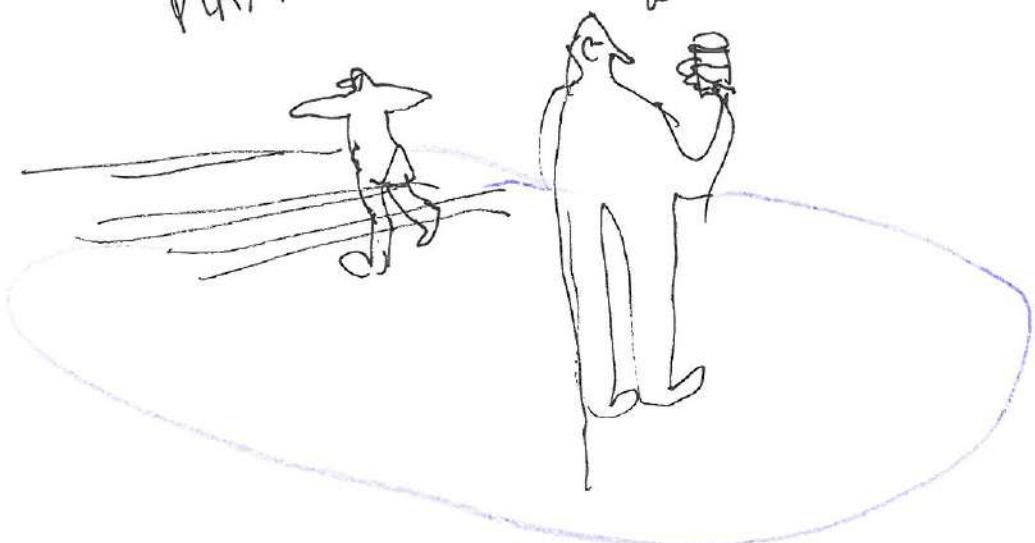
can converse with friends +  
meet up but what if you want  
+ meet someone new

- ~~something~~ something that suggests  
people make Glasgow.

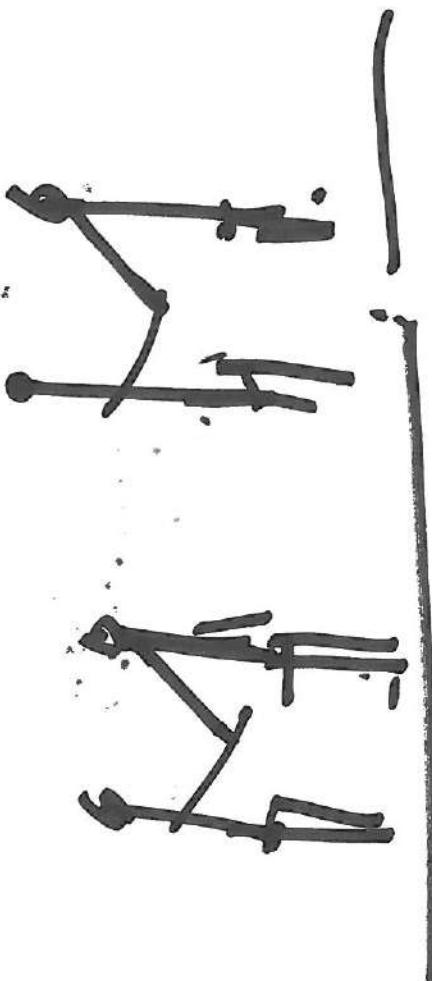
MORE INTERACTIONS  
ON IT

PLAYFUL.

GRRB  
a COFFEE.



WESEN & FREIEN



## Activities (free)

- pianos
- ping pong
- chess sets.

Does this link with  
programme/management so  
it can be a changing  
space that encourages  
people to use it.

Feels dead at night -  
~~but~~ When Indyref campaign  
was on, felt busy /  
or friendly in the evening

## Keep as open space

- 1) Enhance green / tree planting
- 2) Update statues — remove slave elements
- 3) Space for outdoor café  
pop-up space. / continental model.
- 4) Make ice-rink an annual feature.
- 5) Fountain? — Repurpose an old one
  - Commission new sculpture

Yes in principle —

---

- eg. through trees  
(but not across entire square)
- keep a useable space in  
centre of square
- always busy in summer, but  
quieter in winter.  
↳ shelter needed (OK  
even if cold!) eg. canopies

- Create an area for performance that's free to use for students etc (rather than big fancy stage)
  - e.g. Trafalgar Sq., 4<sup>th</sup> plinth  
Barcelona: square with orchestra  
Riga too
- Programme of cultural activities
  - all year - free ! for bedrock of the city - citizens !
- If it's attractive to locals, it'll be attractive to visitors too.

Use the square to  
create more "community"  
in Glasgow

... space for local artists/  
bands

... community growing

# A place for local culture

- art +
- music
- plasticity
- spontaneity and curation ?
- use tech/apps/phones to curate & keep evolution live

# INSPIRE

- contemporary culture
  - music
  - art
  - theatre

# POSITIVE

SPACE TO RELAX, MEET  
AND SOCIALISE

To hold small events,  
protests + marches.

Extend square to City Chambers  
- close the road off + pedestrianise

KEEP OPEN AND  
ACCESSIBLE

---

BETTER QUALITY  
LANDSCAPING WHETHER  
HARD OR SOFT

---

RESPECT SURROUNDING  
ARCHITECTURE

---

CITY & HAMBURG

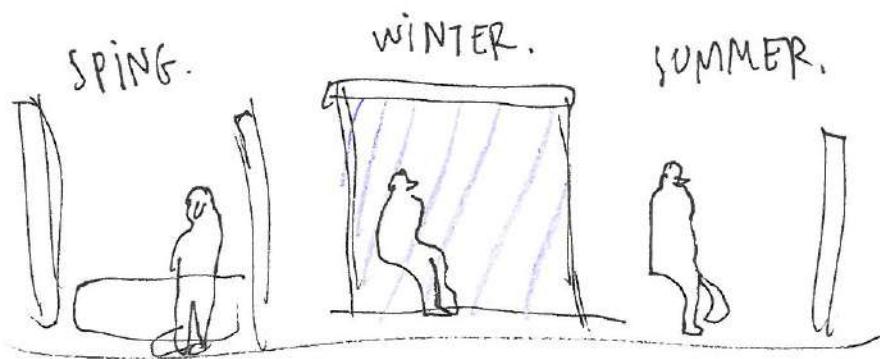
50% IC fountain

A

GARDEN

PROMOTED

THE SQUARE CHANGES  
DEPENDING ON SEASON.



# SMART SQUARE.



It reacts and changes depending  
on the weather.

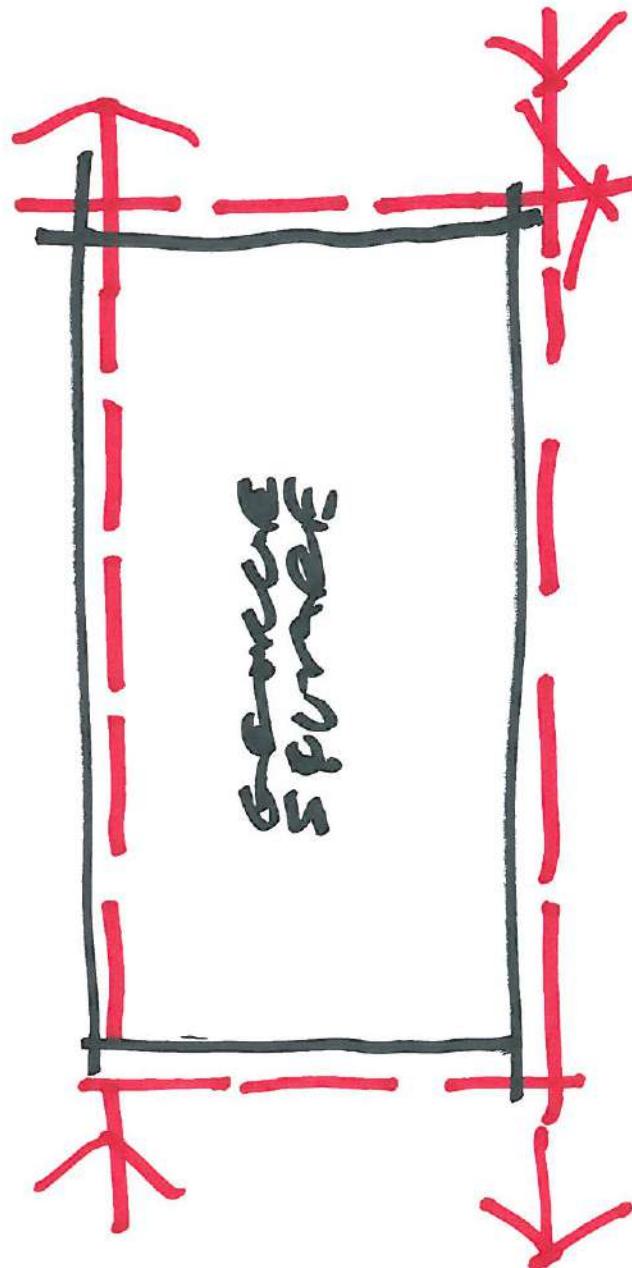
- Weather stops things to happen outside.
- People are more disrespectful.

seasonal colour, more trees

As a transport  
hub.

(Train, bus, subway, bicycle,  
taxi, parking)

longer contact



TRAFFIC

POLLUTION

NOISE

POOR PERMEABILITY



PEDESTRIANISED.

Cars shouldn't have priority — pedestrians should !

Need public transport.

But don't let vehicles dominate.

Need to think about access to Queen St station.

Don't like the roads  
around the square -  
should be consistent rules  
for access - remove  
private cars ? . reduce  
speeds ?

Access for parking on  
street should be  
for disabled people.

(There is a large supply  
of formal car parks  
available in the  
city centre).

Restrict <sup>private</sup> traffic - let kids  
run about - but need  
access to Queen St

station - ~~including by~~ <sup>at least by</sup>  
bus  
==

- get rid of all cars !
- get rid of parking

Place of arrival at

Queen St Station -

'gateway' or

'threshold'

→ QUEEN STREET STATION, they arrive there  
it should be a gateway.

→ OPEN ACCESS to buildings around.

Treat Square as an  
extension to the station -  
seating, departures board

- + good for passenger
- does it fit with the  
green, flowers ?

~~signs of life~~

st Vincent st 1 way out of city

o o o o o o o o o o o o

6

5

2 way

o o o o o o o o o o o o

o o o o o o o o o o o o

o o o o o o o o o o o o

o

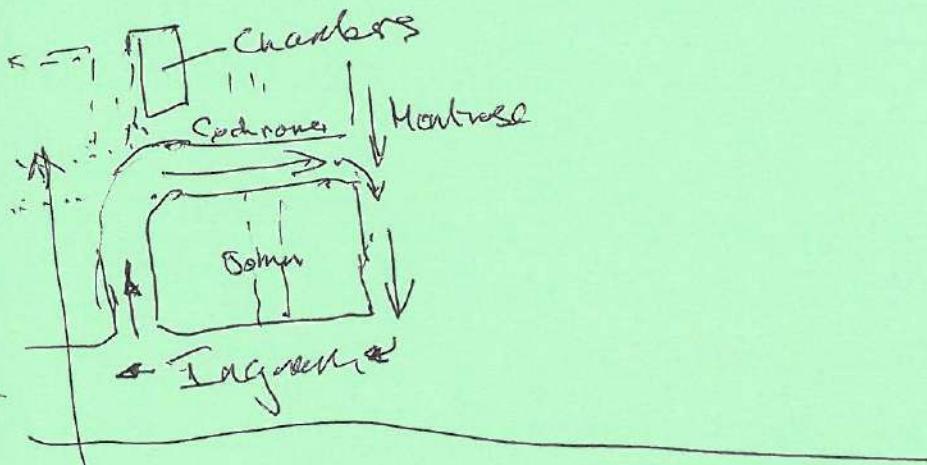
Remove ALL Parkay Spaces  
from George Squeer

Replace with Reinforced Grass.

Operate a "GRID" managed  
kerb-space regime to allow deliveries  
etc. using reinforced grass/delivery  
bags.

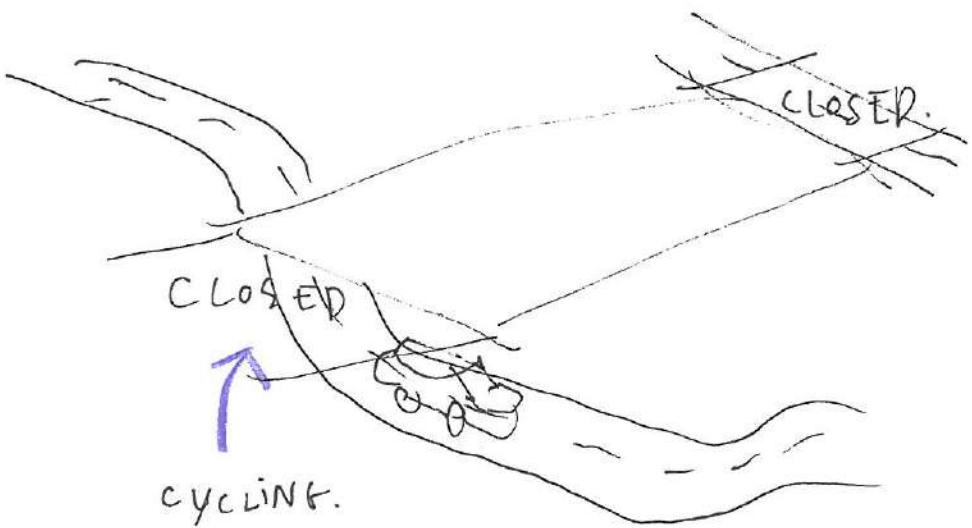
Reverse Motor Traffic flow  
in Cochrane St. - keep 2-way  
cycling. -

Feed Cochrane St from Ingram St.



George St = Paved carriage way  
with tight bond, flat top sets  
laid with self flushy gullies.  
on compacted tar bed, with combined  
utilizing ditches in Subgrade.,

# TRAFFIC UNDER THE SQUARE.



CLOSE TWO ROADS.

A cycle lane provision

you have a chance

for people to happily

co-existing.

No matter what a choice  
has to be made between  
shared or separate, and it's  
going to have to ~~be~~ make it more hostile for  
one 'group'

Special events  
or occasions.

Should be open to  
all Glaswegians from  
all over the city.



EVENTS BRING PEOPLE TO THE  
SQUARE.

George Square

as an event

Space -

must be free & public,  
and keep <sup>some</sup> ~~the~~ space

free for others too

Commercial events

are problematic -

keep people out of the  
square & look shabby

Political events ok -  
part of the gallousness  
of Glasgow.

Hi-quality events only.

Cycling, handball football etc  
ok.

Free or as free-as-possible.

HOARDINGS AROUND EVENTS  
EXCLUDE SOME PEOPLE SOME  
OF THE TIME.

EVENTS ARE GREAT, AND  
BRING PEOPLE TO THE  
SQUARE, BUT SHOULD  
NOT EXCLUDE.

EVEN S : could run the  
new square.

TREES : good for scale.

Sheltered structures?

GRASS

Good place for  
organisers to put events



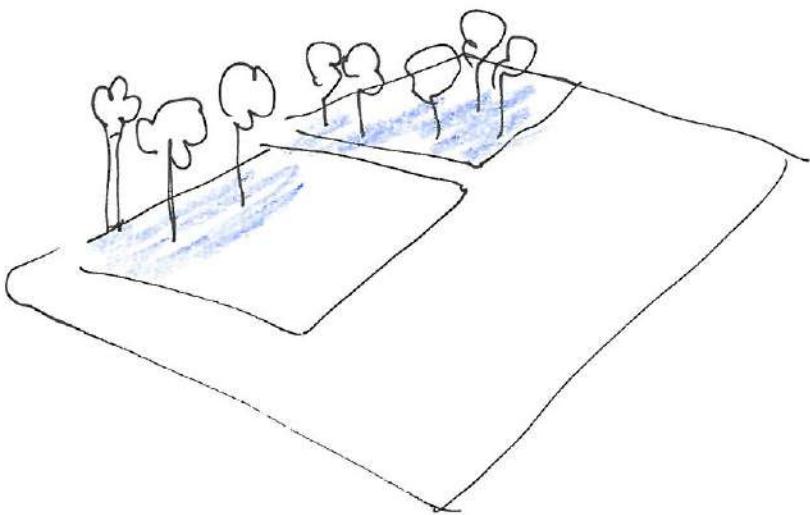
Looks a bit bleak....

if it was to have  
events as a purpose  
this is what it would  
have to look like

e.g. The Big Day, 1990

- music
- bigger events could  
be at G.I. Green

FIND THE RIGHT  
BALANCE BETWEEN "TREE SPACE"  
AND BLANK SPACE FOR EVENTS.



Need to avoid trees  
getting in the way  
of events

Statues

They don't seem to be  
a barrier to events.

Need to have more  
definition to all  
civic spaces across  
Glasgow.

GRASSY  
GREEN



GREEN  
FRUIT



NEON  
MANGA



Hierarchy of art spaces

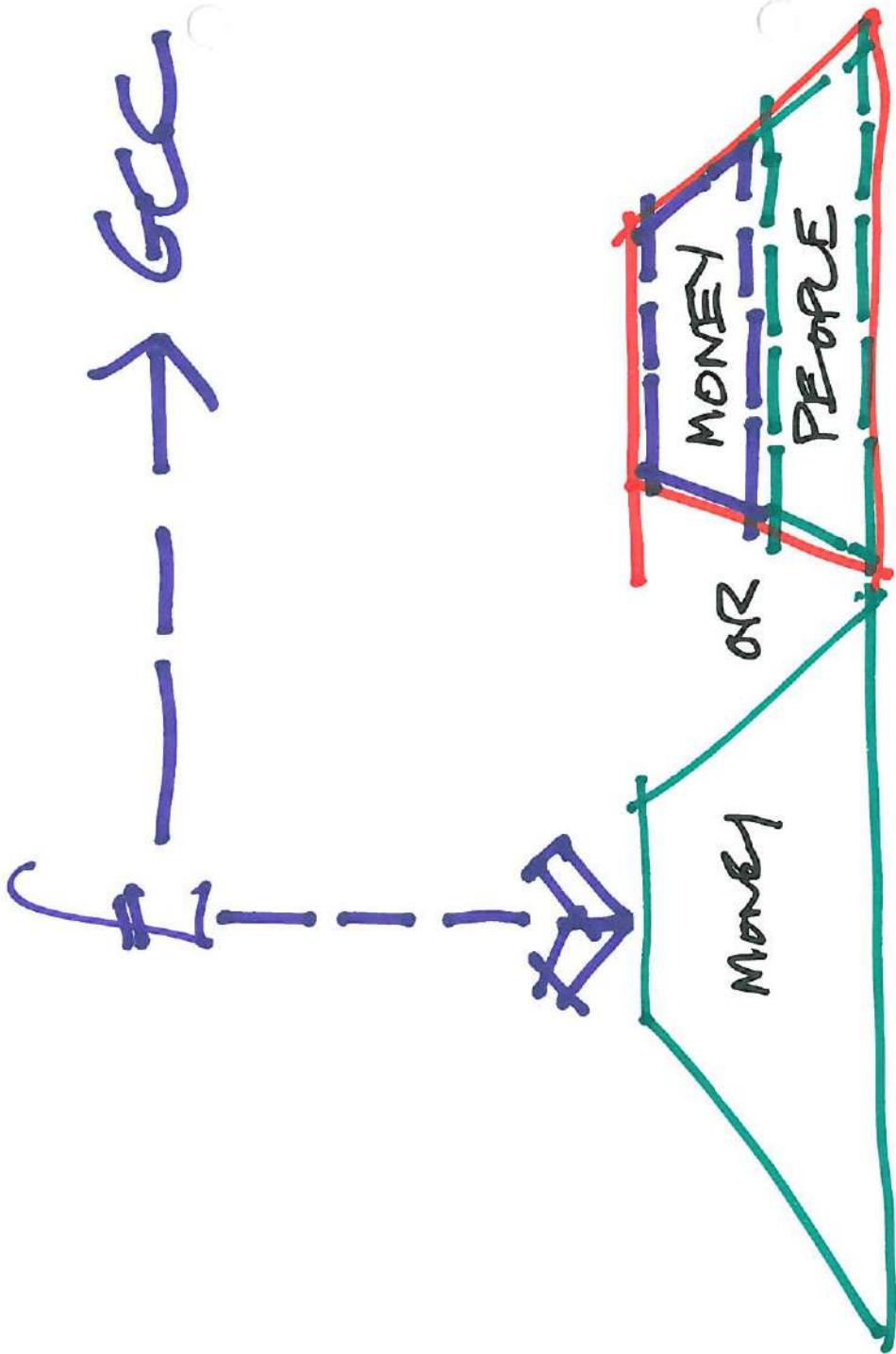
Think of George Square  
as one of a number of  
spaces in the city.

Need a strategy for  
event spaces across the  
city centre - somewhere  
else is needed to take  
the pressure off George St.  
Mustn't stop political  
protests !

PUBLIC SPACE + PRIVATE EVENT

~~CONFLICT~~

ETHNIC ISSUES



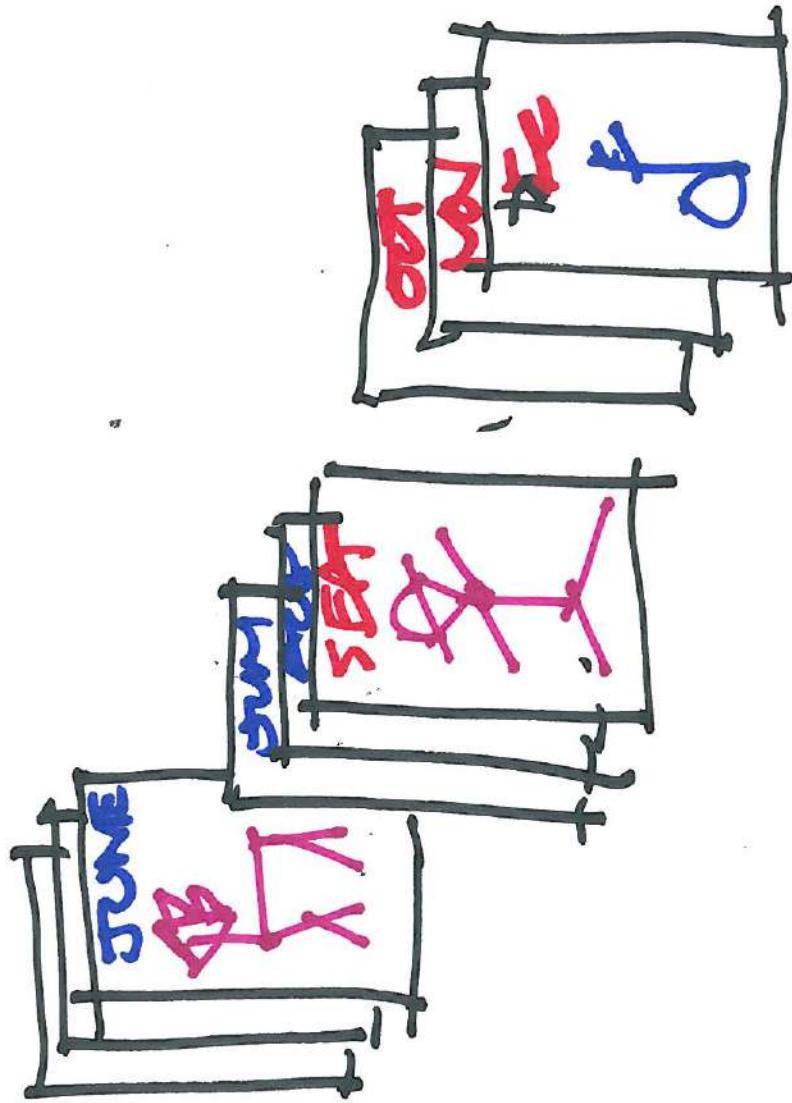
## EVENTS ON THE SQUARE.

- it should not be everything!
- It needs MANAGEMENT & CURATORS.
- So many culture in Glasgow:
  - ↳ CULTURAL EVENTS.
- Space to stay → less dodgy.
- TASTE to George Square.
- West end glasgow? grubby edge that you find elsewhere in Glasgow?

It would be incredible to have more events in the square / show off local arts/culture  
... <sup>community but/</sup> free busking (space for local folk to perform/exhibit)  
... but not dodges/fair etc

NOT ENOUGH ART  
& DESIGN OPPORTUNITIES  
/ EVENTS

# ANNUAL CULTURAL PROGRAMME



SEEING ACTIVITIES, PARTICIPATING.  
YOU CAN TELL YOUR EXPERIENCE.

→ ENGAGING

→ DANGEROUS BRANDED

→ NEED TO BE CAREFUL WITH  
IT.

→ FREE EVENTS.

- It's not attractive, not inviting.
- Not<sup>a</sup>welcome place.
- Do not block the square for any events.

CHRISTMAS  
FARES (& LIGHTS)  
ARE TACKY

# EVENTS

NO TO TACKY XMAS  
FAIRIES ETC.

NO TO CONCERTS

NO TO DEMONSTRATIONS

- IT can be an inclusive  
space for 'ALL' AND NOT  
'EXCLUSIVE' for THOSE WITH  
ABILITY TO PAY OR THOSE  
THAT BELIEVE THEMSELVES TO BE  
MORE SENSITIVE.

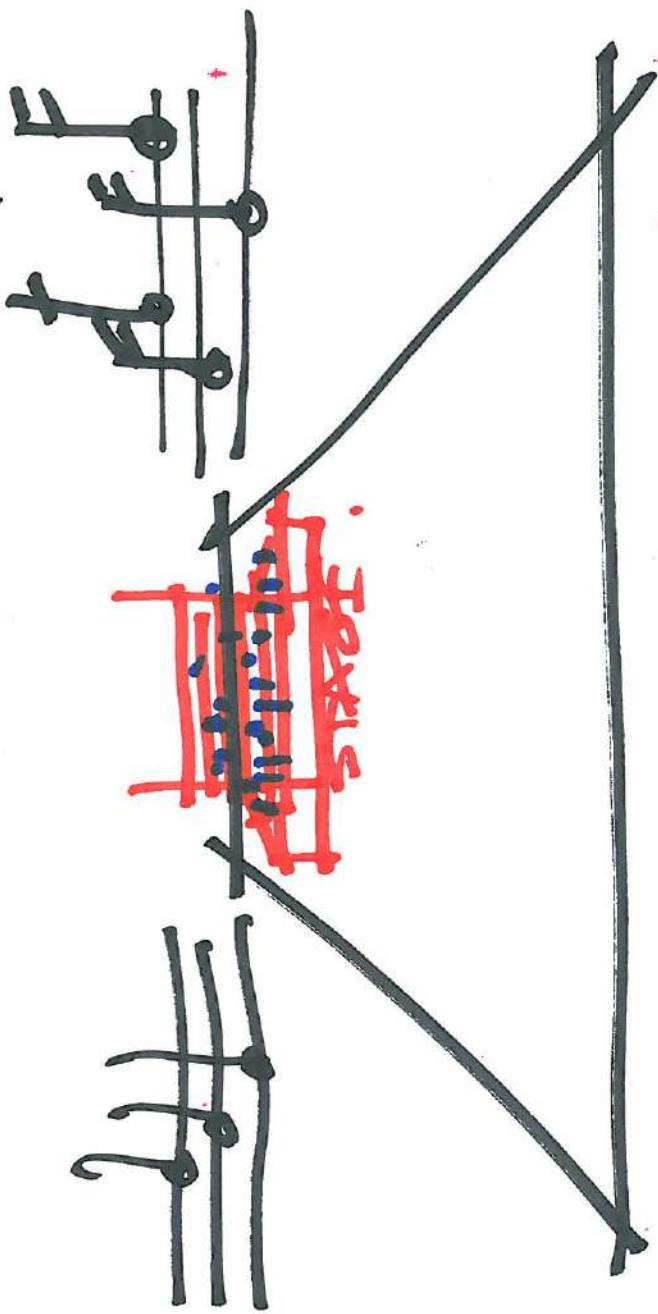
GEOGRAPHIC SOURCE CAN BE A  
FREQUENTLY SHACK THAT COULD BE  
REDESIGNED TO HOST GUN  
BUT ALSO REPRESENT A QUIET  
SITE FOR CONTEMPLATION ETC.

There's no farmer's  
markets. (uniqueness?)

- Events might be part of  
seasonal adjusting, but must  
be open to all & not  
block the square to  
movement

- eg. Xmas market would mark out seasonality
- eg music Prom & other events (programme over seasons)  
(good acoustics!)

ROWS IN THE SPACE



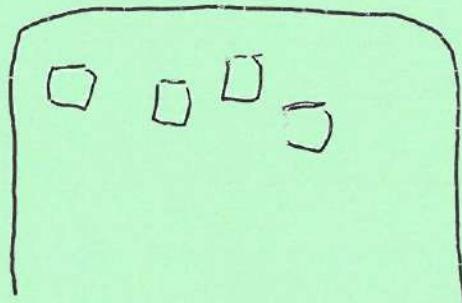
REMANENT PERFORMANCE AREA

- enhancing the Square

- lack of notification of events

Events are targeting family + friends  
but perhaps not relevant + it's expensive

- maybe if we had an event board for  
people to put events on it, creates  
conversation.



- community Garden.

## Events

- George Square isn't big enough for the events it holds
- Small events space at the West end of the square (Merchant House)
- Events capacity should be limited

Need to think about  
how large crowds are  
managed / policed / made  
safe.

---

The Maybe A<sup>2</sup> is not the  
place for big free ticketed  
events - they should be  
elsewhere, e.g. At. Area.

---

eg. bus launches  
(FirstBus, SPT)

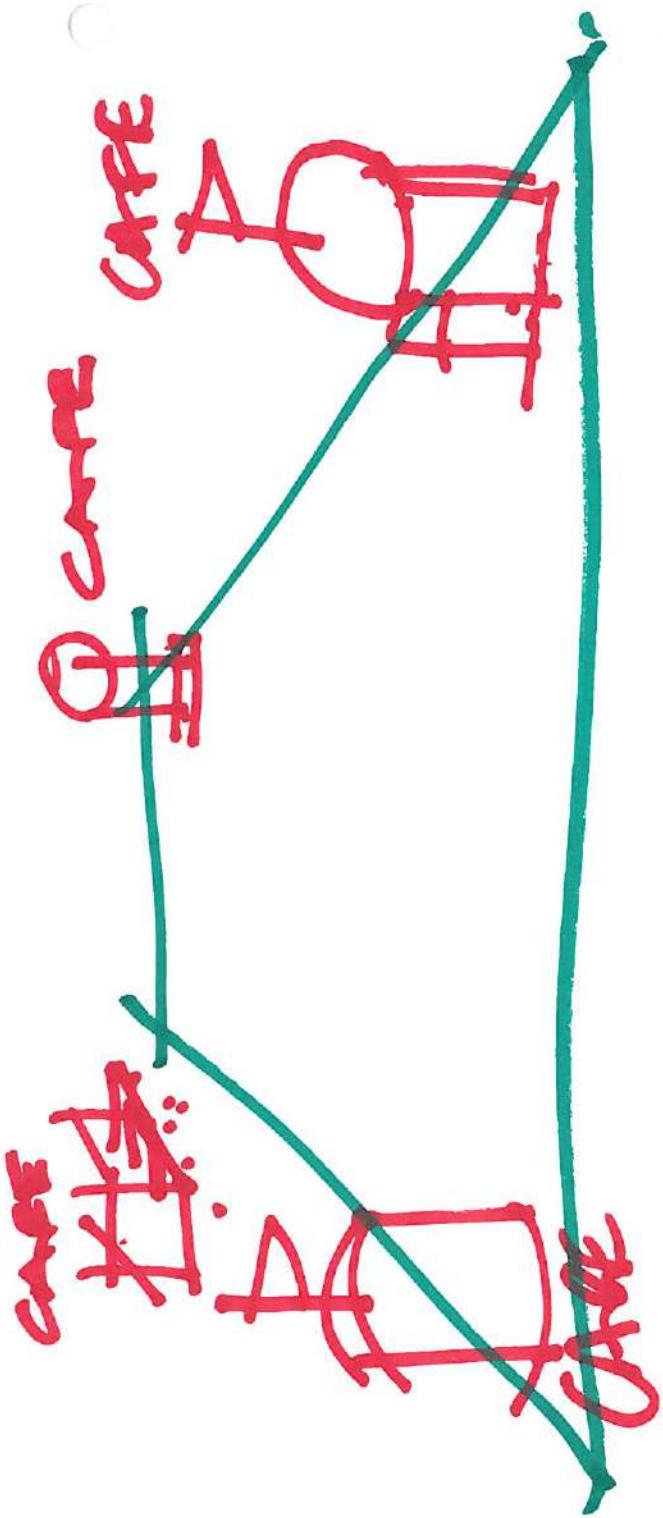
events

Cafés, bars,  
restaurants  
and shops.

---

City Centre is a  
leisure destination

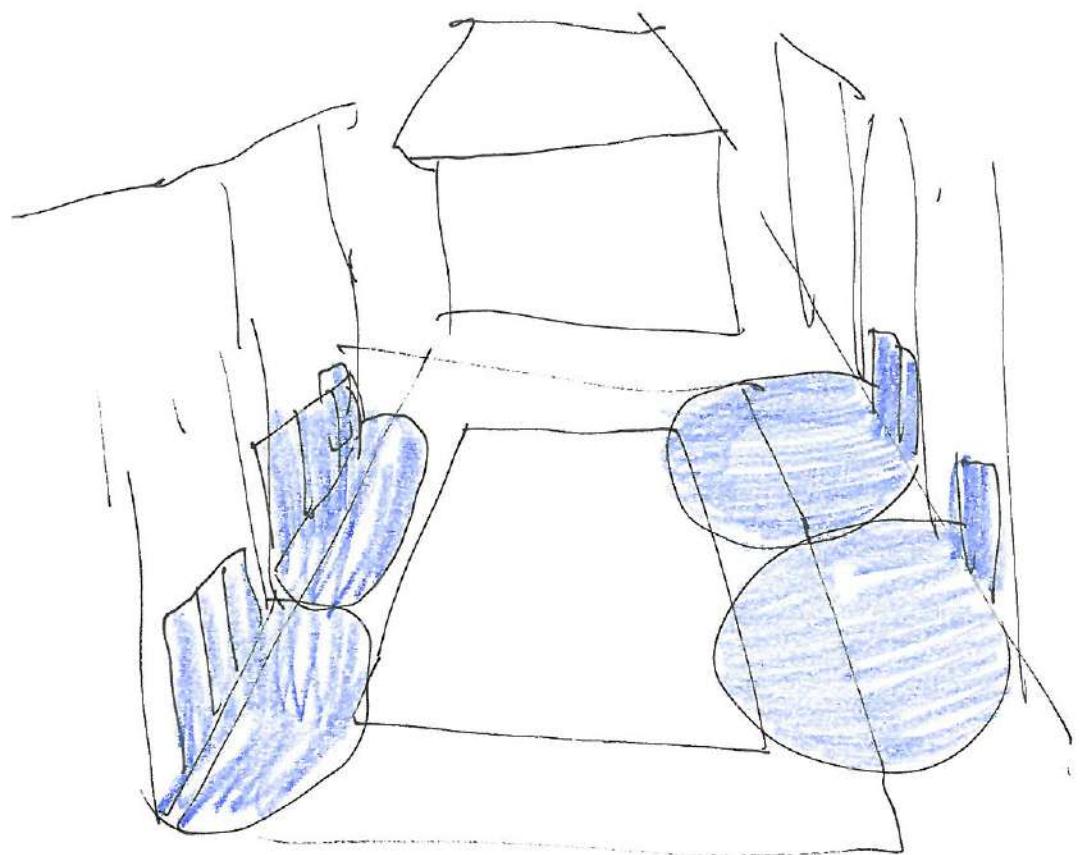
Change in Final colour



Putting a commercial  
venture into the square  
puts a barrier up /  
puts a price on it

---

No financial barriers !



OPEN BUILDINGS  
to the square (café, restaurants...)

Let cafes spill out

with outdoor seating

- could we pedestrianise  
the whole thing ?
- let's think strategically  
+ be ambitious, think  
about the whole area
- or do it bit by bit ?

Restricting the  
level of traffic space

can allow ~~people~~ cafes  
to move out into the space.

Lots of cafes / bars in  
city centre - don't  
need more.

-not everywhere needs a  
cafe!

C

FOOD

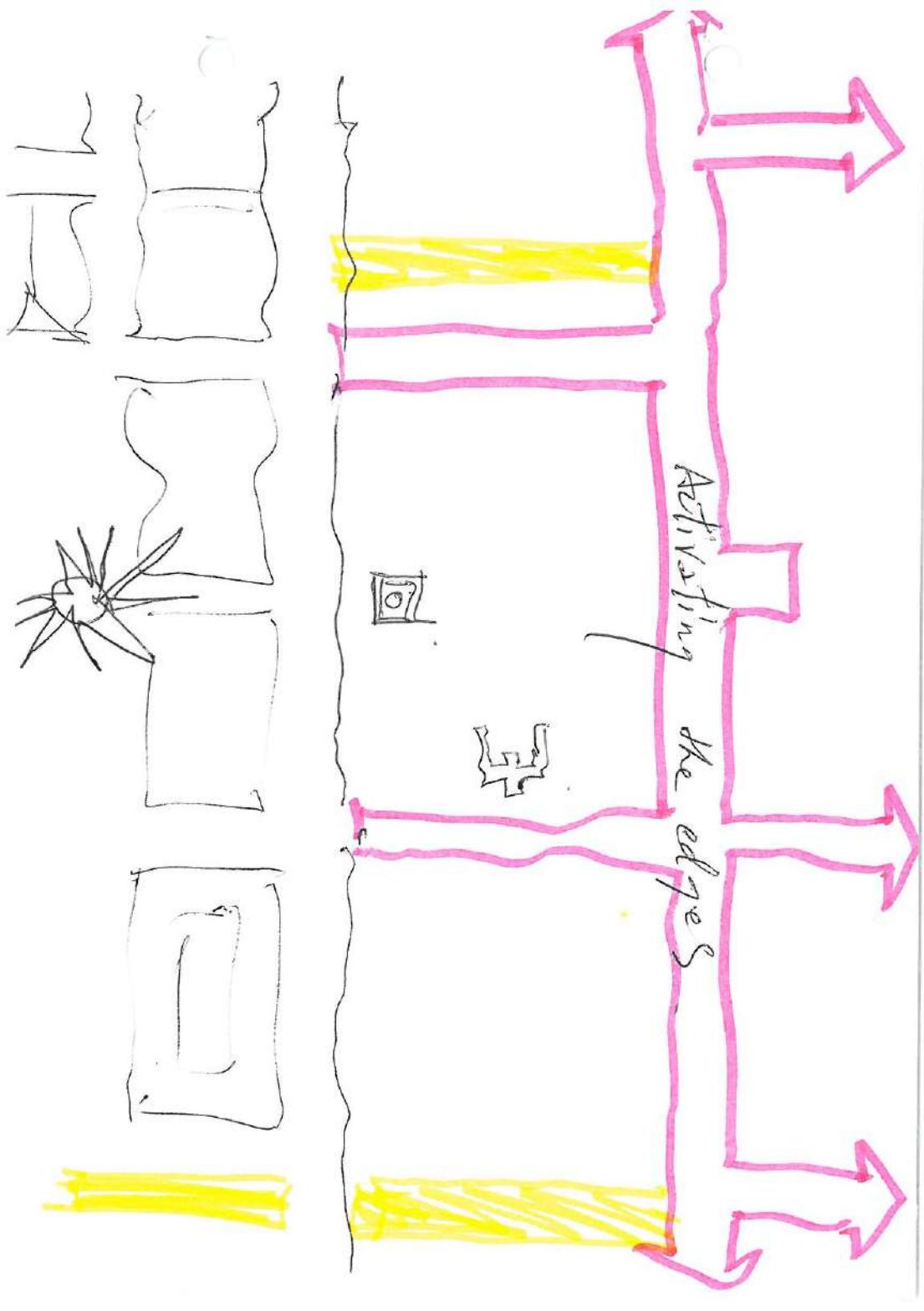
5

MARKET  
STANDS



POP UP  
FOOD -

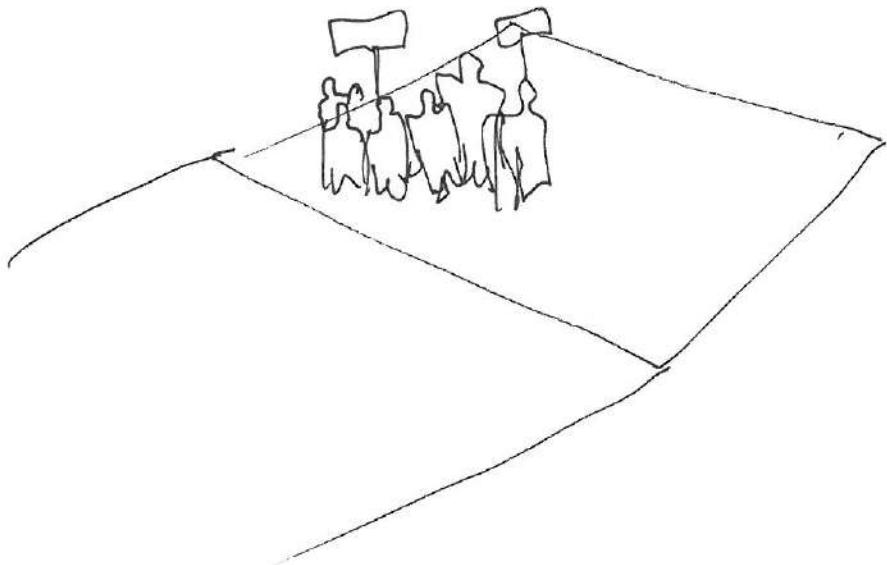
Activating the edges



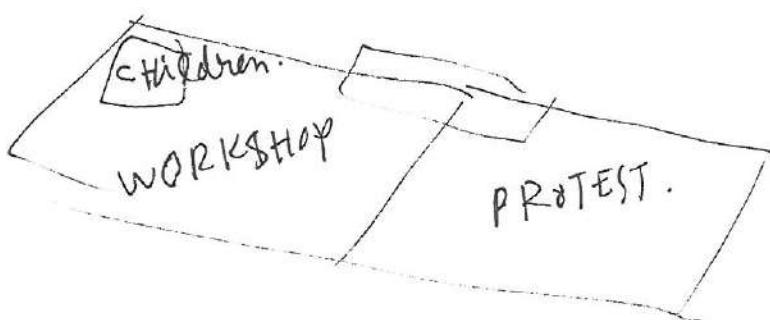
For protests,  
rallies or  
demonstrations.

MAKE THE SQUARE  
FOR PEOPLE

place to protest.



GEORGE SQUARE  
a place to PROTEST.  
and other places.



Sightseeing the  
buildings and  
monuments.

people (and tourists)

are already here

and L 6OKING

We need to work out

what they would be  
seeing/ looking at.

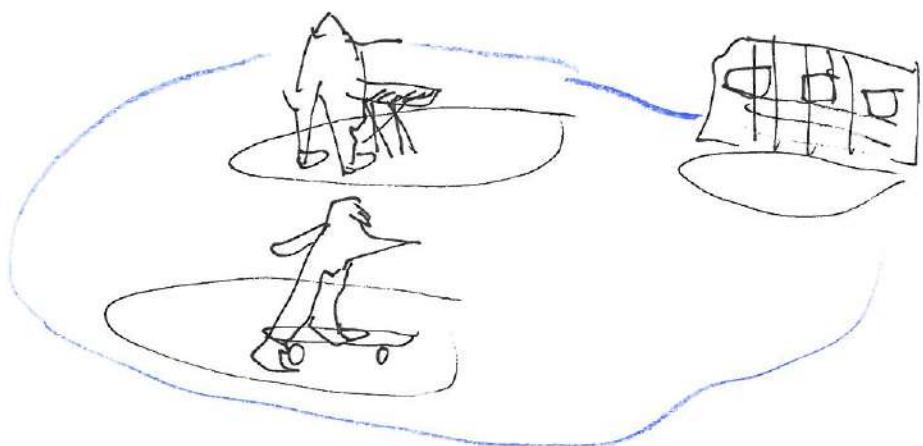
stakeholders.  
Embrace <sup>the</sup> things as  
part of a new design.

Glasgow doesn't acknowledge  
its merchant wealth  
but may have negative  
connotations.

If it is the centrepiece  
of the city (for tourists),  
we should give them  
a modest scene to  
pose in.

→ contemporary

PLACE FOR PEOPLE  
TO DISPLAY THEIR TALENT.



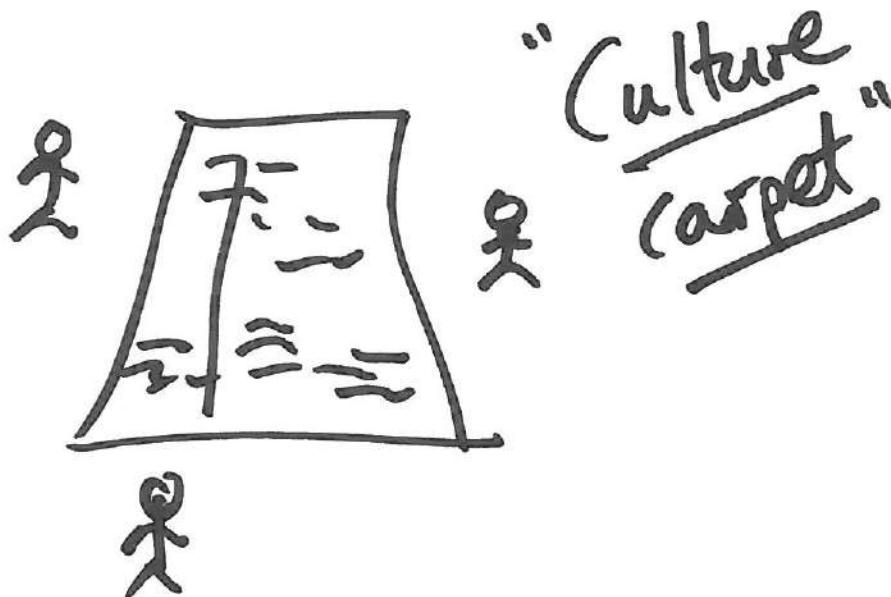
- No buskers on George Square.
- Place too flexible it doesn't mark it. If too much activities possible there is nothing happening there.

# Information about Glasgow's history

- ... including slavery: don't hide it!
- ... link to measurement marks

Subtle references to history /  
~~playful~~

Carpet of Glaswegian  
to celebrate  
~~cont~~ history / culture  
... past & present



- + interpretation of statues.
- + like Barrowlands Park albums
- + like Blackpool

People would learn  
about the city

Stops graffiti

- Pop up Structures - cafés
- Moving Statues
- Walter Scott no longer in the middle
- Provide interpretation on the Statues.
- Statues → why plazas + too much space
- Square as a DESTINATION.

ANIMATE EDGES

KEEP THE CENTRAPH

- EMBRACE IT  
INTO REDESIGN.

Restore Imperial measures fully  
+ highlight them

Public art can be  
part of a modern  
story that shows  
things that means  
something to  
Contemporary.

Variety, strikingness that  
makes you stop.

Kinetic pieces

Something more  
contemporary - artwork,  
"4<sup>th</sup> plinth", etc  
Changing artworks by  
young Glaswegians

Can new statues.

by public subscription

bring new artwork

into the city, and

bring some more dynamism.

STATUES or WORK  
OF ART more CONTEMPORARY.

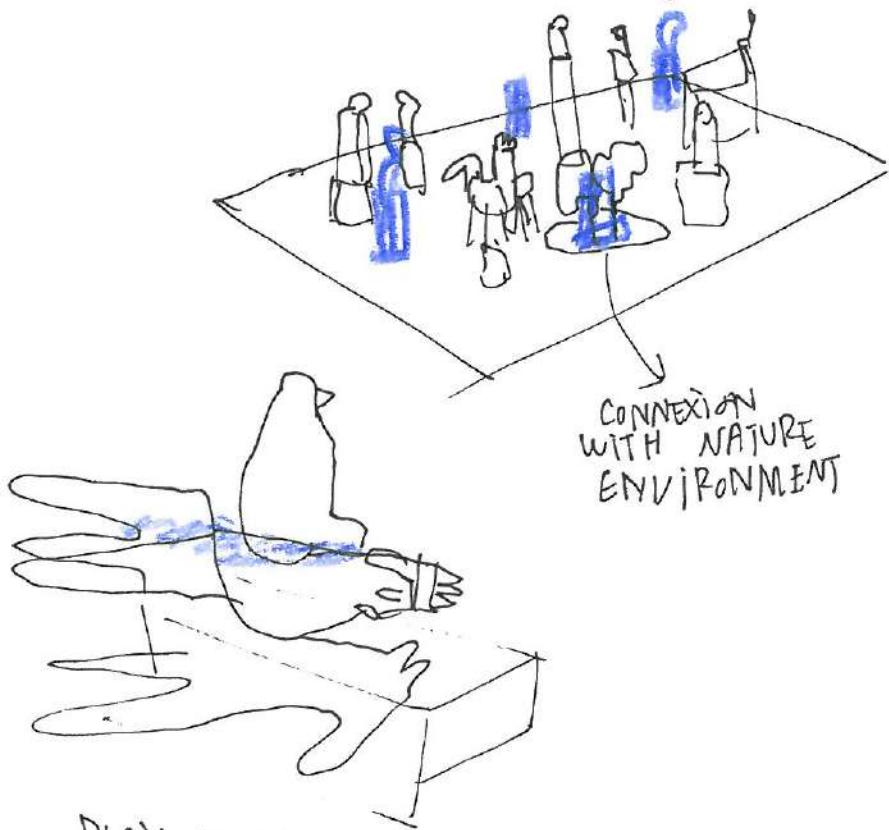
→ not much attached to statuary.

# Statues

- no consensus about them
- poor gender balance !

Take them off the podiums  
& display them more  
'naturally'

Make it more a place for  
Glasgow's history,  
Add more statues?  
More for the FUTURE  
to represent Glasgow today.



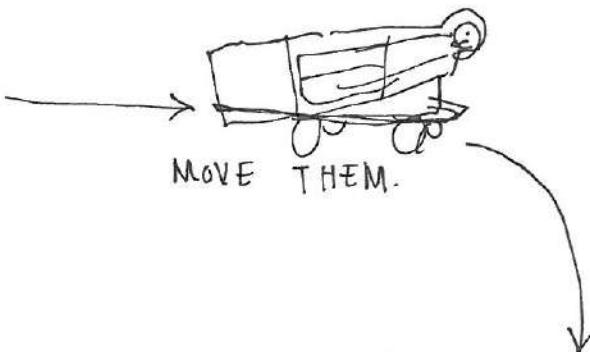
CONNECTION  
WITH NATURE  
ENVIRONMENT

PLAY WITH  
the EMPIRE HERITAGE.

- Add to them with contemporary artwork too ?
- More interpretation of what's on the square, its history & what it tells us ?
- ~~Statues~~
- Statues need conservation work.

THEY ARE HERE FOR  
SOMETHING.

→ Can it help to celebrate  
Glaswegians' culture.

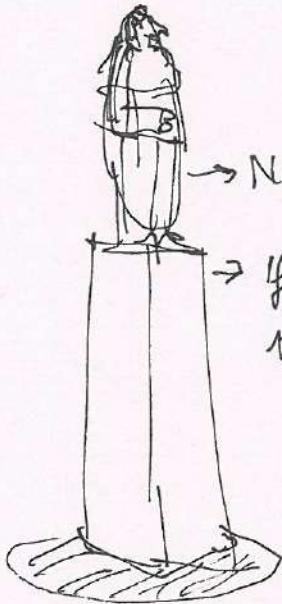


WHAT TO DO WITH  
STATUES?

Statues are part of  
George Square - even  
if we don't know ~~who~~  
all know who they are !

Statues... we should  
think about, <sup>discuss</sup> what to  
do with them.

- Are there some that are more important to keep?
- Or should they stay because they reflect Glasgow's ~~old~~ history?
- Or...? ↗



→ NOT CONTEMPORARY,  
EMPIRE Heritage.

→ If you remove evidence of the empire  
you need to remove most statues in  
the city.

Statues are all (nearly)  
men from a

certain age - and  
they're all "great  
people": except the  
war memorial

- (Almost) all men
- Not a reflection of contemporary Glasgow/  
culture. (except Burns)

~~Needs~~

NEEDS TO ACKNOWLEDGE BOTH THE  
HISTORY OF THE SQUAT ITSELF  
AND (IF THEY REMAIN) THE LINKS OF THOSE  
REPRESENTED IN THE STATUES TO GLASGOW'S  
KEY ROLE IN THE ENSLAVEMENT OF  
PEOPLES

NONE OF THE STATUES REPRESENT  
MODERN ~~MEDIEVAL~~ + MULTICULTURAL  
GLASGOW.

WOMEN AND MINORITY COMMUNITIES  
ARE RARELY REPRESENTED UNLESS  
THEY ARE WHITE

Statues are part of  
our history and  
should be preserved  
as they are.

PERHAPS WE SHOULDN'T  
CELEBRATE OUR HISTORICAL  
ENTHUSIASM FOR SLAVERY.

WE HAVE MORE MODERN  
HEROES TO HONOUR.

- They have incredible value , even though they are vestiges of empire/slavery etc.

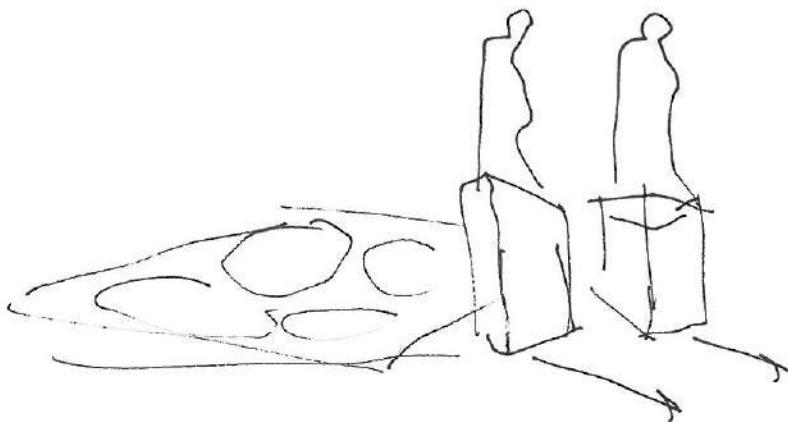
SLAVERY LINKS

SHOULD BE

REPRESENTED

How about all these  
great Glaswegian  
women ?

STATOES CAN  
BE MOVED  
SOMEWHERE ELSE.



STATUES COULD  
BE PUT IN  
DIFFERENT PARTS  
OF THE CITY

Statues are a resource  
for the city, they can  
create public spaces  
of interest elsewhere

(stated)

Moving them<sup>^</sup> may be ok -  
but there will be  
technical constraints.

But why move them?

The grass,  
trees and  
flowers.

Make it more  
of a green lung.  
for the city.

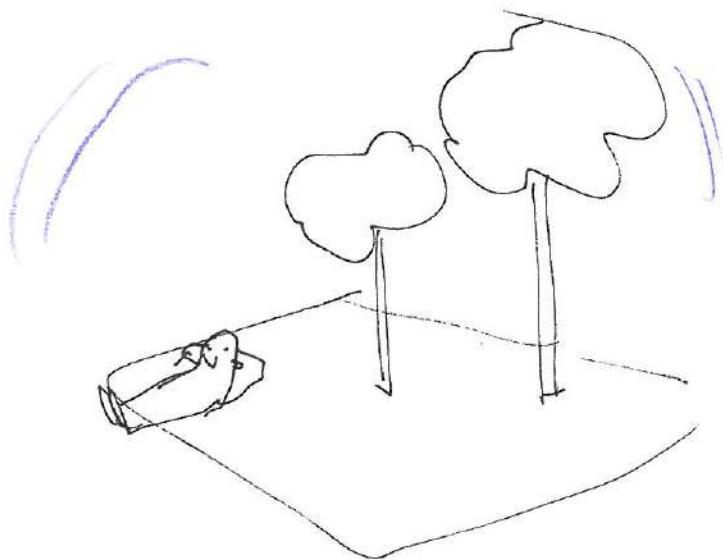
George Square is an  
obvious place to start  
for this.

As the only open space for miles,  
KEEP IT OPEN but plant more,

Put the trees back and create a  
garden with "rooms" for the people  
to enjoy & take the health benefits from.

GET RID OF THE PREHISTORIC  
STATUES & REPLACE WITH SOME  
MORE RELEVANT GLASGOW HEROES &  
HEROINES

RELAX = GREEN.



Used to be more trees

- doesn't feel very green

Could be more creative landscaping

'Green lung'

Plants - let's have

more & give them a

purpose

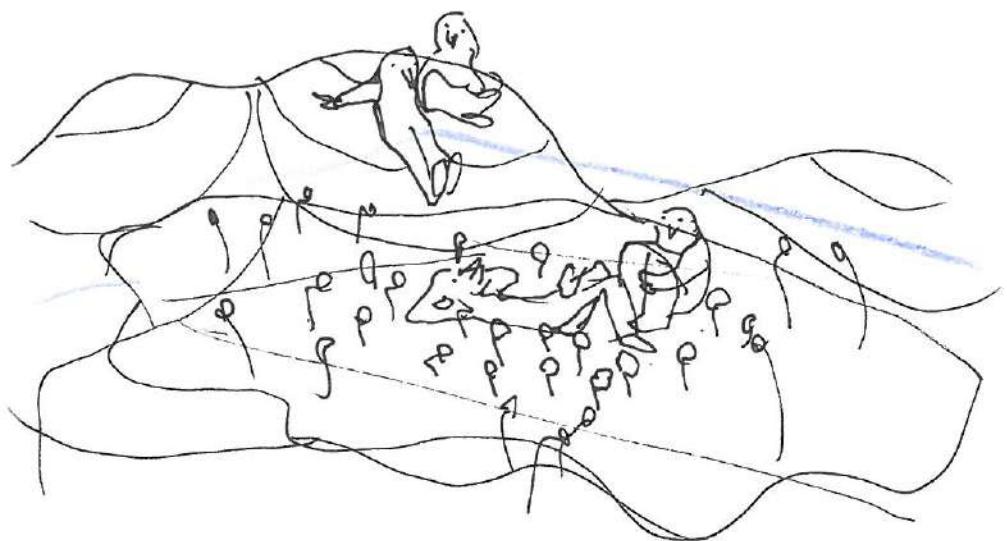
- rewilding?

- e.g. lavender / sensory  
fruit trees?

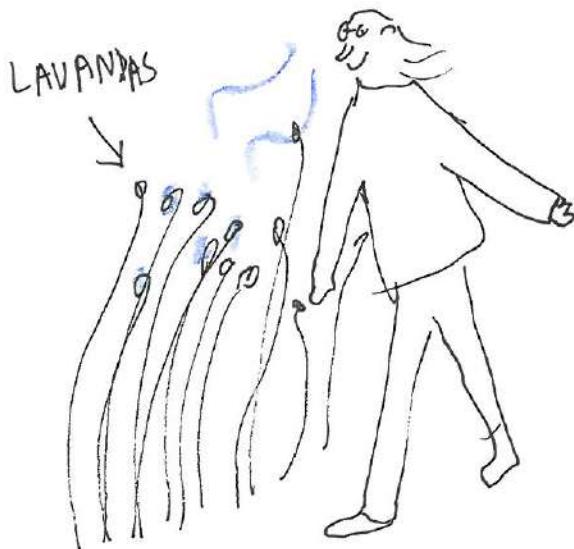
- greenspace in the  
city centre to give people  
a break?

- trees would create nice  
spaces for sitting etc?

RE - WIL DING  
THE SQUARE



MORE PLANTS THAT ARE "USEFOLL"



useful greenery to  
encourage citizen  
interaction with nature

fruit trees

herbs

sensory garden

More greenery - breaks  
down concrete / 'city busy'  
feeling.

- good for mental health

Tackle pollution

Be inspiring

Good for mental health

Currently a void space

---

Mental Health  
Break from the  
concrete city

- sensory plants.



✓  
Trees ✓

"Dear Green Space"

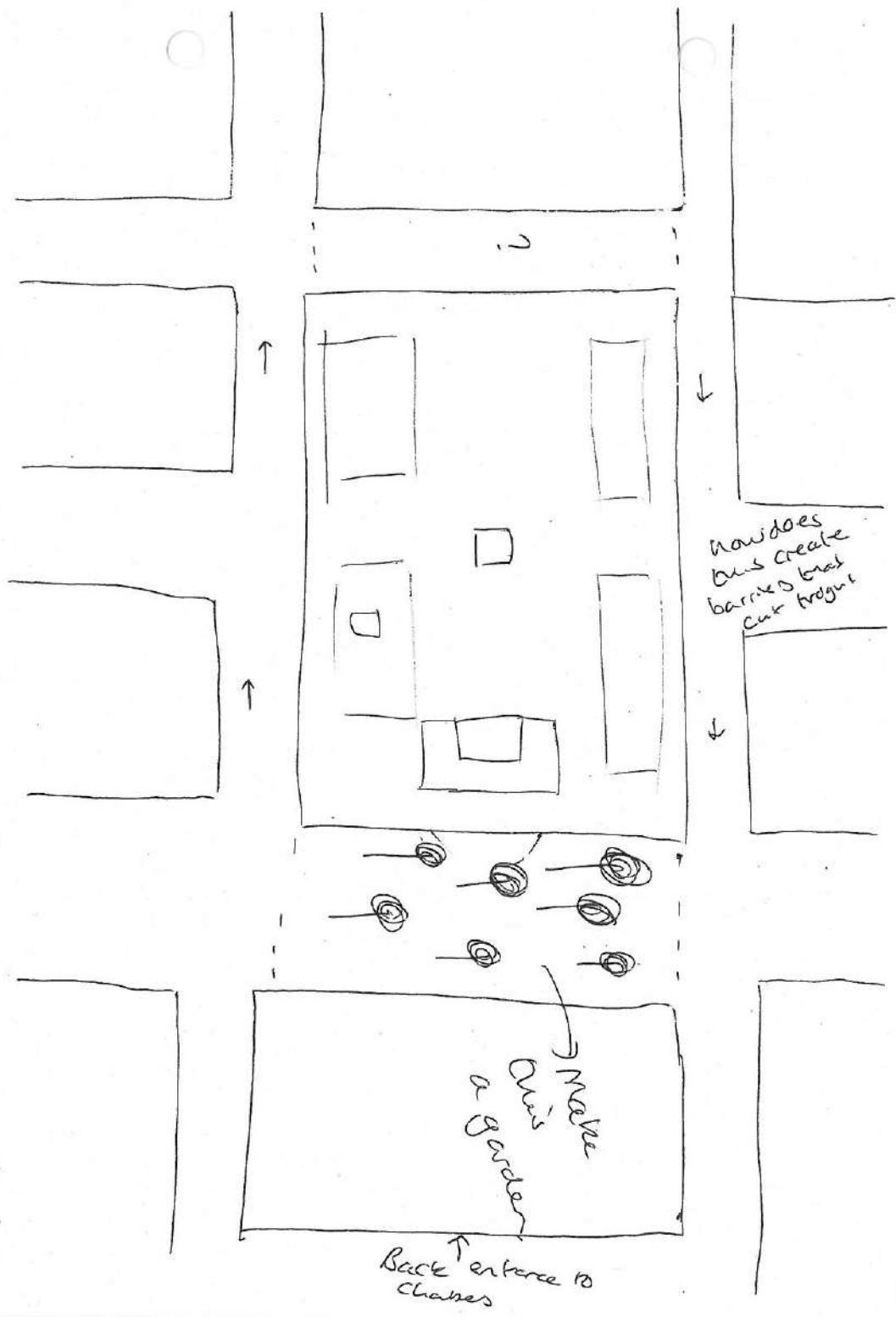
To make it connect  
with the natural  
environment, have big  
water feature

# Trees

બાંસ

- that adjust to the seasons.
- more greenery trees - supposed to the Dear Green Place - very little in city centre
- don't cover whole square
- don't remove the trees we have
- food recycling bins!

Restore semi-mature trees to  
replace those removed when  
"Red Square" regime was in operation



MORE GRASS

NO SHRUBS

MORE TREES

LESS "STRUCTURES"

---

CHANGE CONTEXT OF  
REMAINING STATES:

"FIND THEM IN THE  
TREES." ( STATEMENT  
ABOUT CLIMATE  
EMERGENCY )

SHOULD BE MORE  
GREEN - OPCN  
& ACCESSIBLE

COMMUNITY GARDEN  
FOR PEOPLE TO  
SOCIALIZE. WOULD  
NEED TO BE  
PUBLISHED

## NEGATIVE

- NOT ENOUGH GREENERY
- TOO NOISY
- TOO MANY STATUES - ~~TAKE AWAY~~
- TOO MUCH TRAFFIC
- POOR / OUTDATED LAYOUT & LIGHTING
  - (LIGHTING IN THE GROUND,  
UNDER SEATS, ETC)
  - Think out of the box -

No reason to  
go there.

# Issues: Care and maintenance

Quality is important -

planting, events,  
maintenance, design

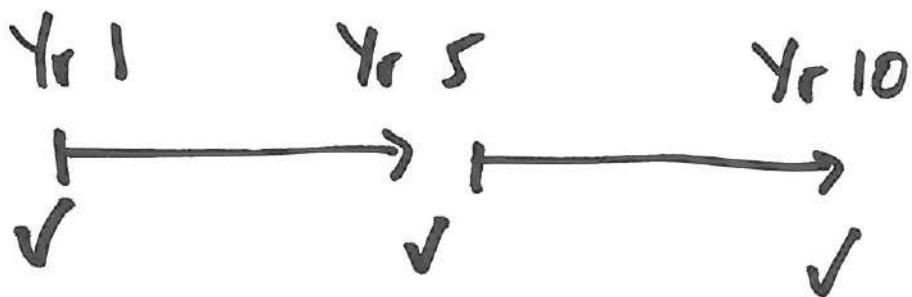
Take better care of  
the square ...

... eg. conserve statues

... (add new stuff to  
add to them)

... less litter

Maintenance - whatever  
done must be good quality  
& kept in shape &  
cost efficient



Maintain monuments  
appropriately ! not bleach +  
black paint

Day to day maintenance,

evidence of care

that shows it is  
our sanctuary.

Surface issues are  
more pressing than  
foundational.

Carrying lives on with  
connection with a place  
and identity, our  
needs to be incorporated

Will people keep it  
clean & stop dropping  
litter ?

# What's Different About Glasgow & Euro Cities?

- Respect for the space
- It's something we want to have & keep.

Issues:  
Relationship  
with its  
buildings

We need to remember  
how what happens  
on George Square  
impacts on the character  
of the buildings  
that are around it.

Buildings need  
harmonisation, they're  
a motley mix.

The public space  
can help with that,  
and soften the  
impact of the buildings.

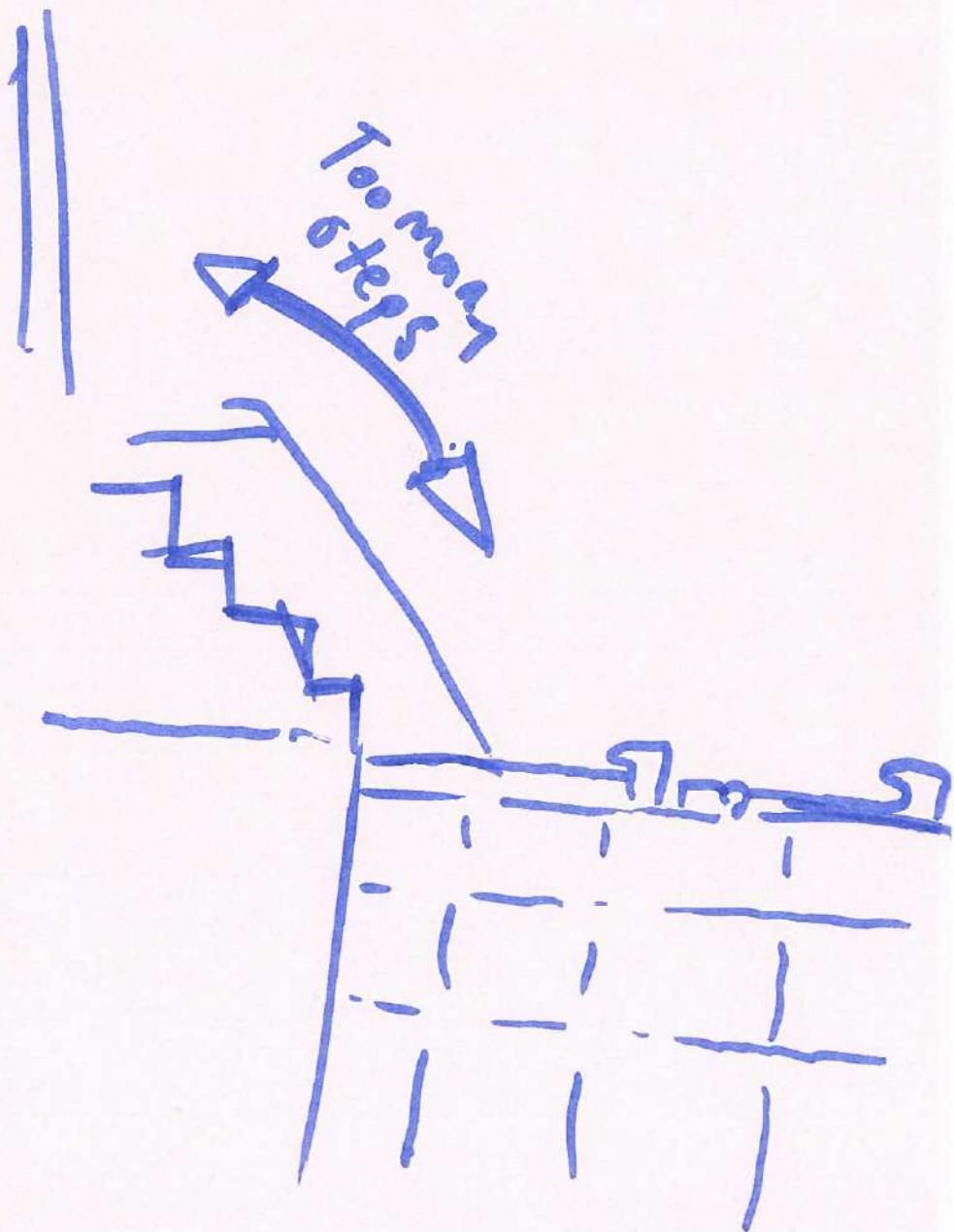
Keep it simple -

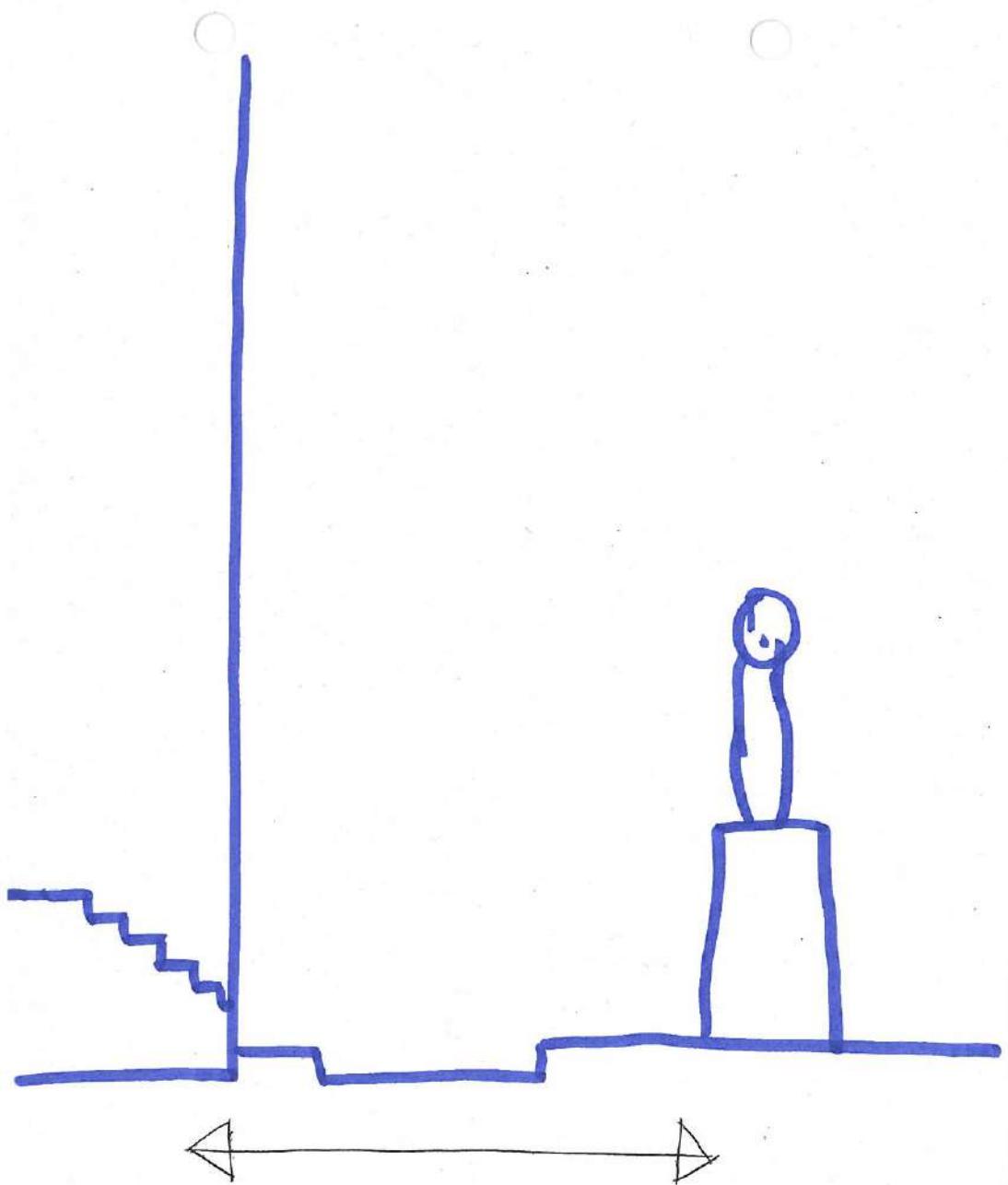
- don't waste money
- show off the buildings

City Chambers are  
currently cut off  
from the square  
currently.

SURROUNDING  
BUILDINGS AREN'T  
VERY ACCESSIBLE

- LOTS OF STEPS
- ETC.





Disconnect between  
ground floor of the  
square's buildings + public space.

Grand floor of  
buildings can introduce  
more 'public space'

Glasgow's buildings are

- BEAUTIFUL -

including George Square...

... if you look up!

There <sup>are</sup> societies in  
Glasgow but ~~charming~~  
architecture, but it  
is sometimes  
under appreciated.

Ernst + Young building  
is a carbuncle - replace it!

Issues:  
Shelter from  
elements

# SEASONAL CHANGES.



A WINTER PLACE



deciduous tree bark climate

How do we get use of  
the square in the winter?

- cafes with carriages/headers
- events programme
- planting that changes with the seasons

Introduce a street fountain  
feature in centre of paved  
area - carefully set-out to collect  
Water by 1:40 - 1:50 falls\* to central  
"sump."

\* Sufficient to get water collecting  
in sump, whilst remaining useable  
for events.

In hot weather fountains operate  
to cool-down air

After events fountain used to  
clean pavements -  
(+ side jets?)

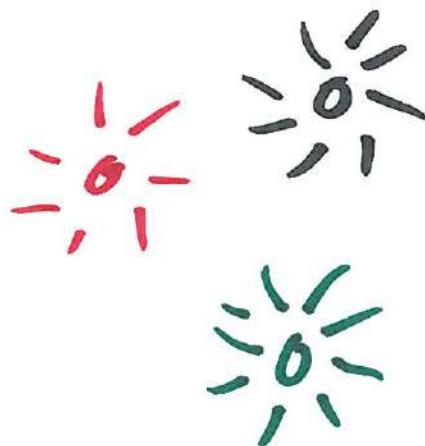
Shade / shelter

- trees
- Sails
- beautiful constructions

This should be something  
that we are good at  
in Glasgow.

# Issues: Lighting

Lighting to make  
the Square more  
comfortable after dark /  
artistic / changing /  
meeting / contemporary

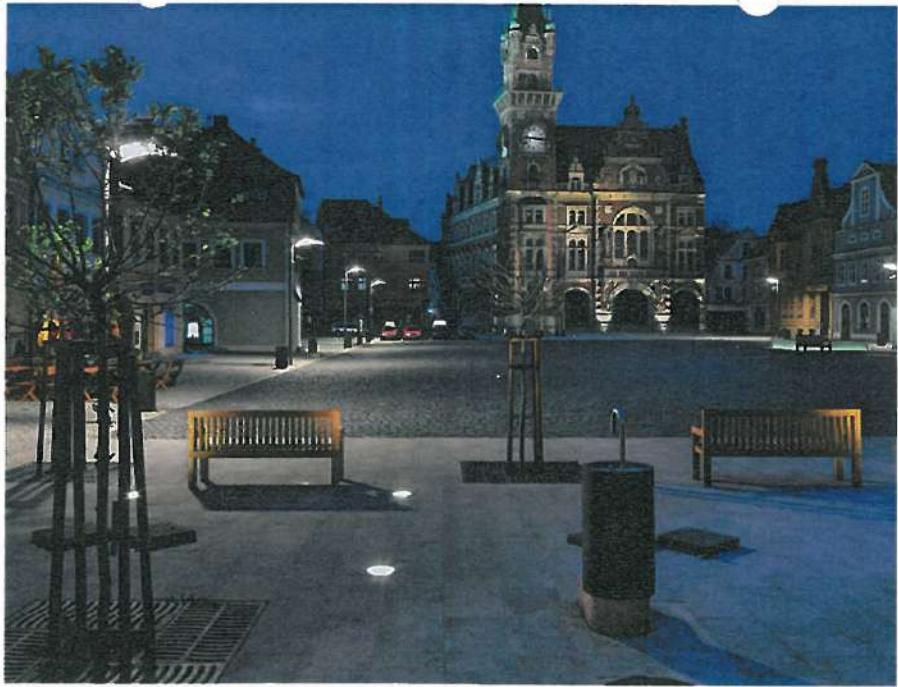


Lighting

~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ improved lighting

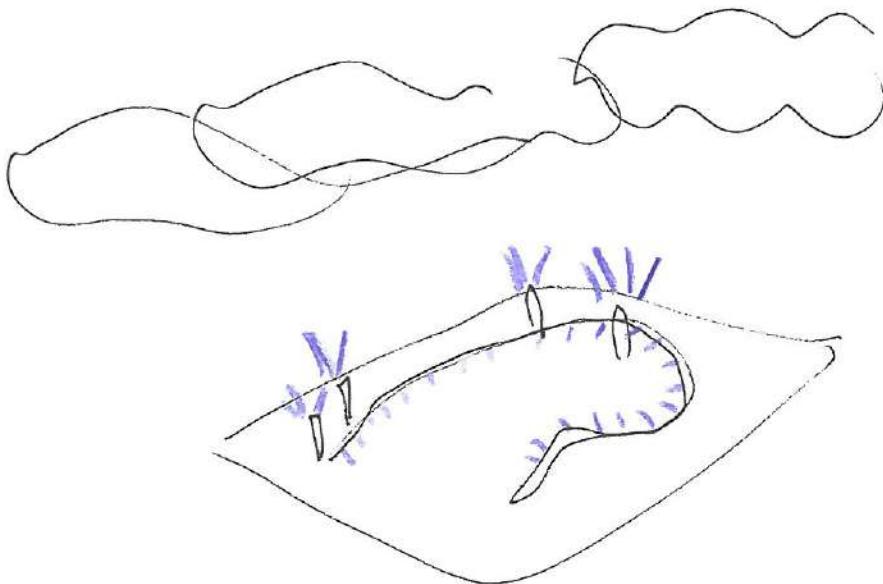


✓ This could be making  
the square a modern  
edge (the lighting more  
than the fountains).

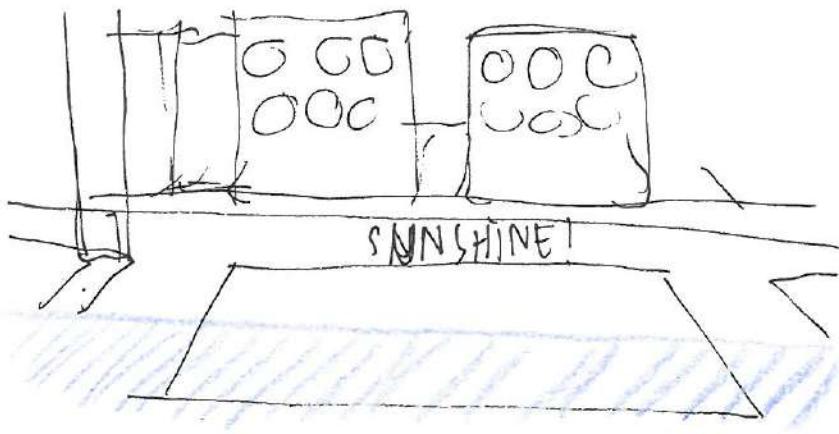


✓ ✓ ✓ Inviting  
Lighting ✓

LIGHTNING  
THAT REACTS TO  
THE WEATHER.

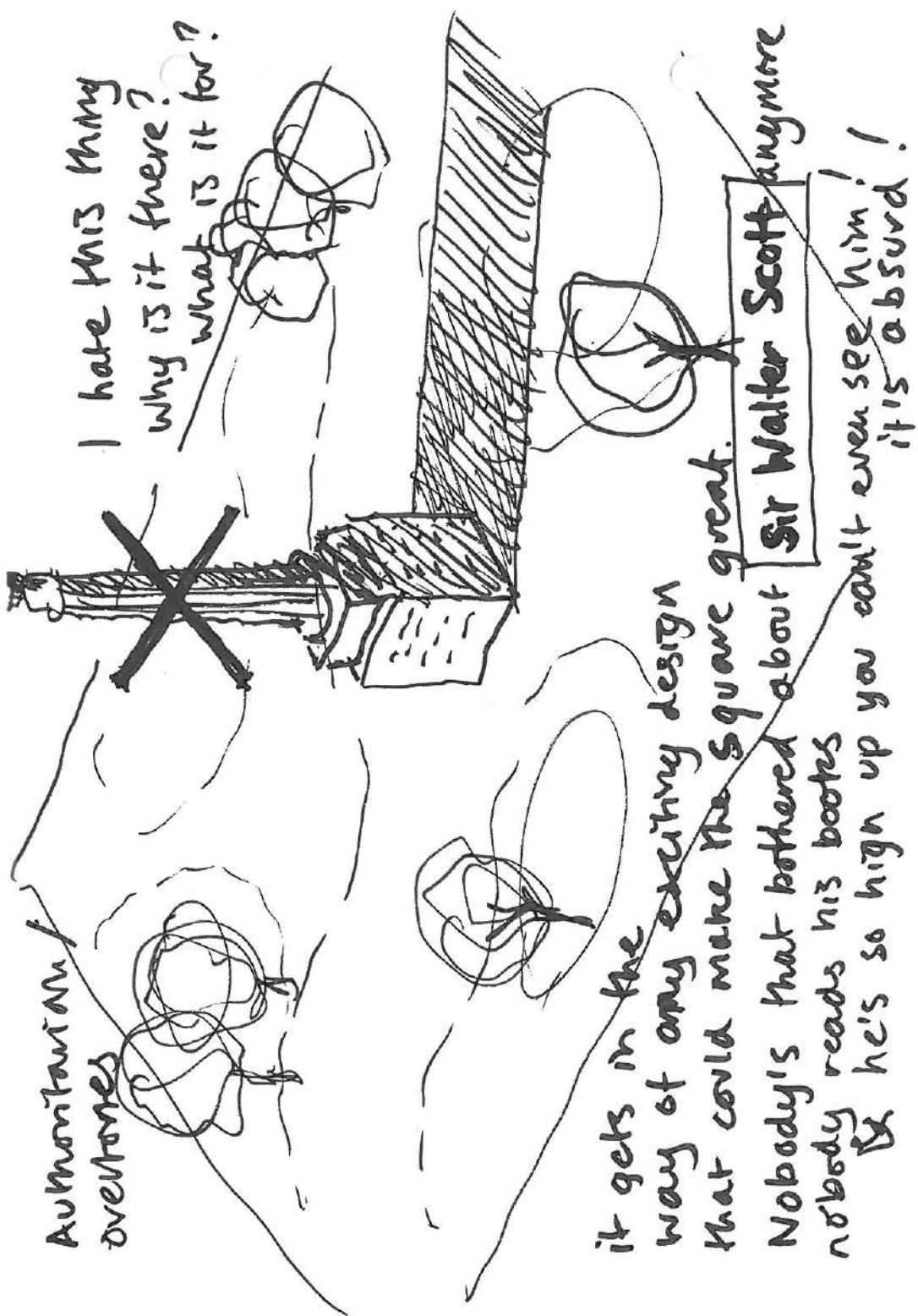


# Miscellaneous (but important).



Amonautan  
overstones

I hate this thing  
Why is it there?  
What is it for?



it gets in the  
way of my excruciating design  
that could make the square great.

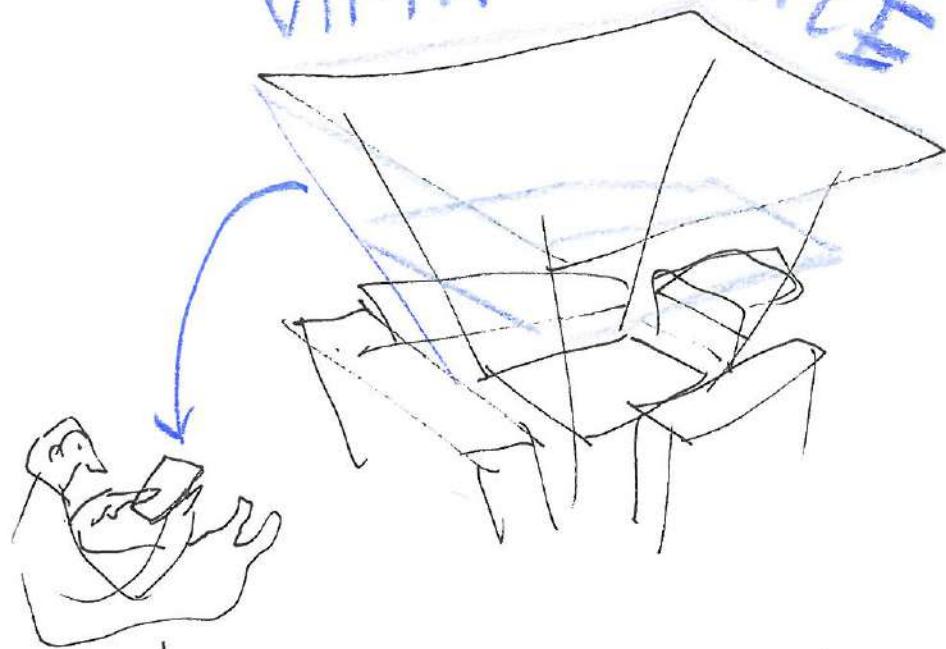
**Sir Walter Scott** anymore

~~Nobody's that bothered about Sir Walter Scott anymore~~  
~~nobody reads his books~~  
~~if he's so high up you can't even see him!~~  
~~it's absurd!~~

- Many people in the city centre.  
of Glasgow.

THINK ABOUT THE VIRTUAL  
GEORGE SQUARE.

VIRTUAL SPACE



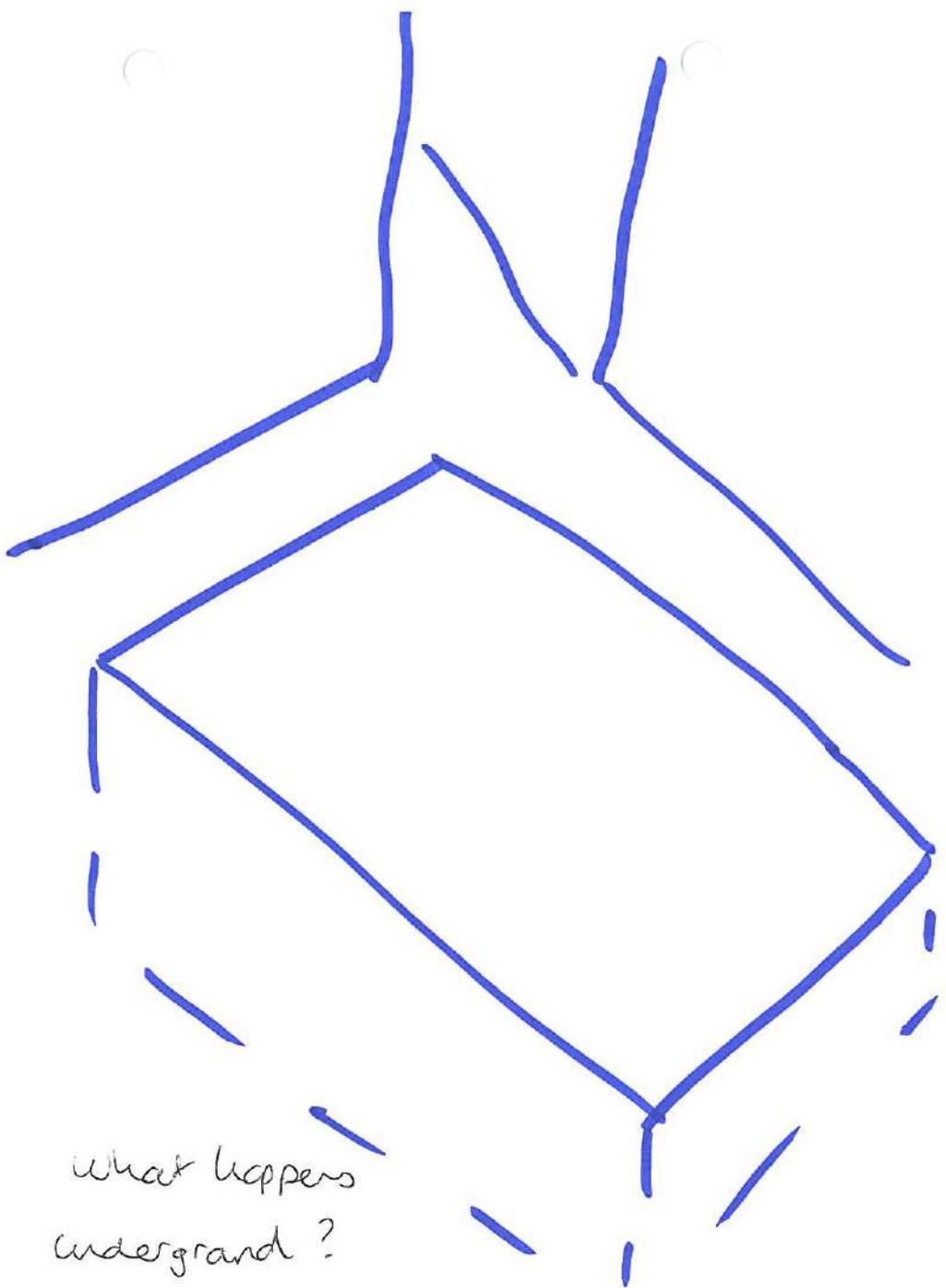
people can create their  
own George Square.

→ PLATFORM for people to have a say.  
about the urban environment.

What's underground?

Is this an underutilised  
asset.

A split between  
grand floor of somewhere  
'to be lazy' and then  
something to do.



What happens  
under ground?

Could this be used.

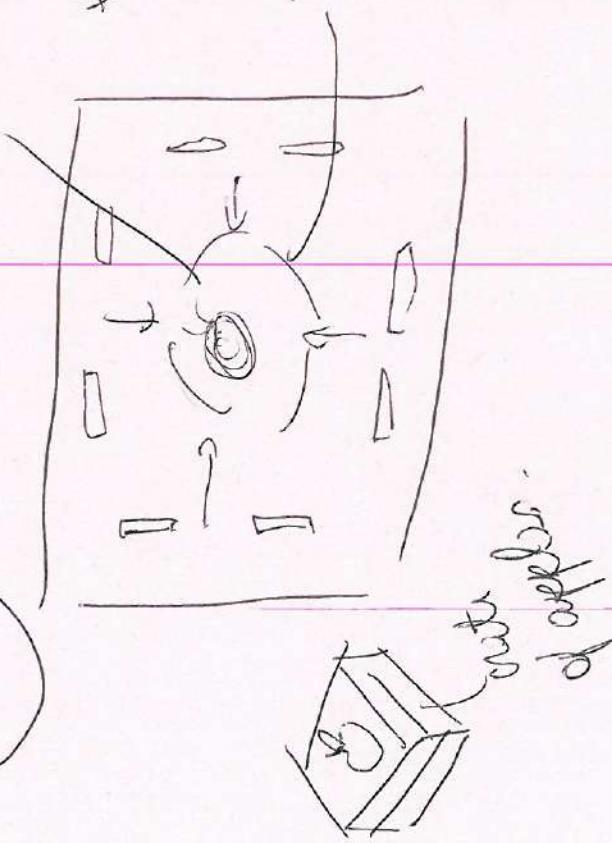
Look at failed spaces.

Why do they fail?

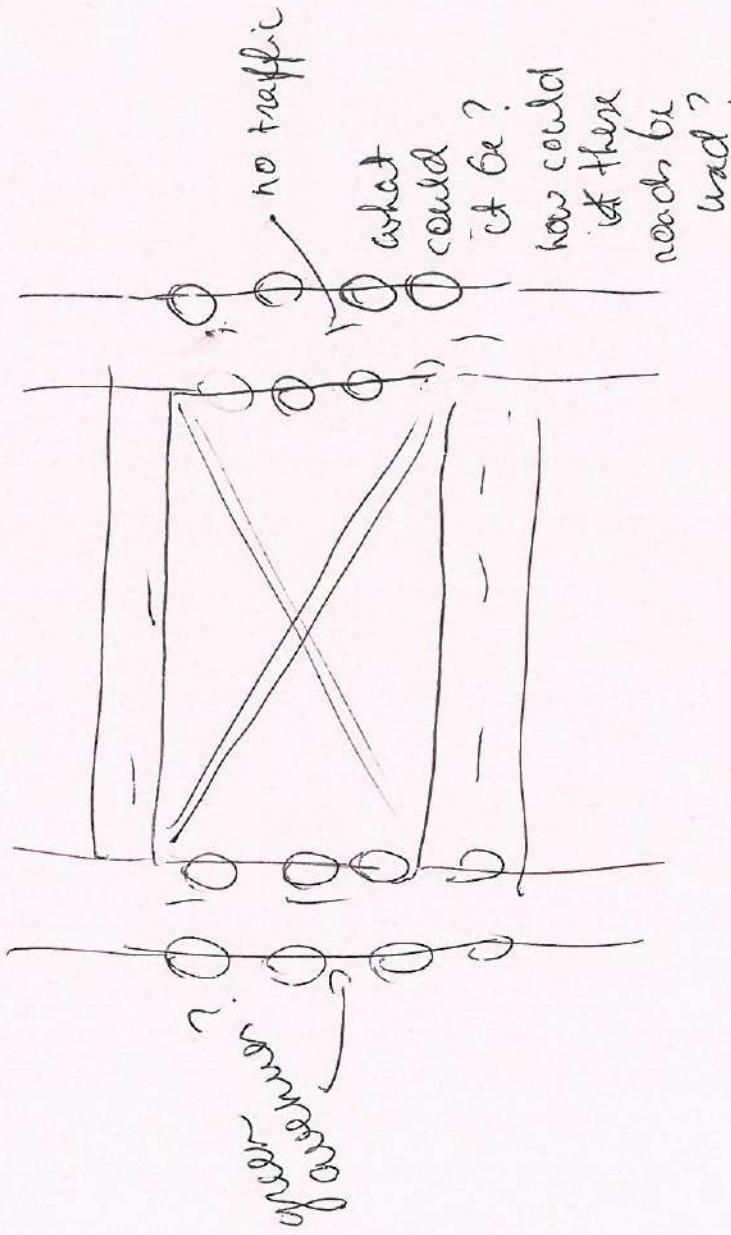
- Union Terrace Gardens  
Aberdeen.

connection  
to friends  
to the city

contemporary to  
old fashioned  
the shifting fashion



- sculpture working  
- what it  
means to  
be a citizen  
of a place?



OUTDATED

EVENTS:

Bring business away?

Should events be moved elsewhere?

NOT AT THE EDGES

CENTRALITY should be moved.

NOT LIKE THE DESIGN

DO NOT LIKE ~~THE~~ EVENTS

WHEN THEY TAKE OVER

TOO MUCH OF THE SPACE

- Too small to do something on it.  
Too small to enjoy it.
  - look at what is around there.
- Glasgow green is boring.
  - guide people around.

Replace polished granite  
furniture for towns ab West.

End of Square.

(I am told these are "safe" +  
in Stone - not stolen?)

WE  
OWN  
THIS

WHO OWNS THIS?

## ANIMATE EDGES

CENOTAPH? Should stay where it is just now.

Softer + Greener

climate change mitigation measures should be integrated in the design of the square.

~~Not~~ Modern art in the Square.

What is under the Square?

Tunnels? What is the history?

## SMART SQUARE

Preserve urban space  
Access to urban space